Arafat to Russia ahead of Rabin visit

TUNIS (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was flying to Russia on Monday for an official visit ahead of a trip by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Palestinian officials said: After Moscow, Mr. Arafat is to pay an official visit to Romania on Thursday and Friday where he may meet Israeli Eureim Ministee Shimon Peres, the officials said. "If may meet Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the officials said. "If Mr. Peres is there, no doubt Arafat will meet him," PLO officials said. Mr. Arzfat is expected to address an international economic forum in the Romanian capital Bucharest on Friday. The officials said that while in Russia, a co-sponsor of the Middle East peace talks, Mr. Arafat will hold talks with President Boris Yelisin and other leaders. about the peace negotiations. Mr. Rabin will be in Russia April 24-26 on the first official visit of an Israeli leader since the re-establishment of diplomatic ties during the waning days of the Soviet Union.

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تأيمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية ،الراي،

Fed to boost short-term interest rates

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Federal Reserve moved Monday to boost short-term interest rates for the third time this year. The central bank's move is certain to drive a variety of U.S. business and consumer rates higher. The Fed's last two increases, on Feb. 4 and March 22, sent Wall Street into a tailspin as worried investors dumped stocks and bonds out of fear that the Fed would be forced to take even stronger action in the future. In Monday's brief announcement, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said the central bank "will increase slightly the degree of pressure on reserve positions, this action is expected to be associated with a small increase in short-term money rates." That wording matched the two previous announcements of rate increases and lead analysis to believe that the Fed has moved to increase its target for the federal funds rate, the interest that banks charge each other, by another quarter point, putting it at 3.75 per cent. The previous two increases boosted short-term rates from three per cent to 3.5 per cent, each time sending them a quarter percentage point higher.

Volume 18 Number 5591

AMMAN TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 1994, THU AL QE'DEH 8, 1414

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

King: No peace without Jerusalem

No to peace that does not restore Arab sovereignty to Jerusalem or full Palestinian rights to their land Amman gathering marks completion of renovation of holy shrines

Brunei leader fetes King

KING HUSSEIN on Monday contacted Sultan Hassan Bulkiah of Brunei and discussed with him bilateral relations and Islamic and other issues of common concern.

The Sultan of Brunei congratulated the King on the completion of the renovation of the Dome of the Rock Mosque describing it as a historic achievement which shows the role of the Hashemites in preserving the Islamic shrines.

Malaysia gives \$50,000 The Malaysian minister of Islamic affairs presented a donation of \$50,000 to the committee entrusted with following up and supervising re-novation work at the Al Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mos-

The donation was presented to Minister of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi at a meeting during which the two ministers discussed means of enhancing Jordanian-Malaysian relations in Islamic fields.

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday reiterated that no comprehensive peace between Israel and the Arabs would be possible without the restoration of Arab and Muslim rights in Jerusalem.

"We say no to any proposed solution that does not restore Arab sovereignty to Arab Jerusalem...," King Hussein told an audience of about 2,500 people gathered at the Palace of Culture to celebrate the completion of the restoration work at the Dome of the Rock Mosque in Jerusalem.

The restoration, which was financed by an \$8.4 million private donation of King Hussein, was carried out by an Irish company which began work in 1991.

Speaking from a podium against a backdrop depicting the Old City of Jerusalem and the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa Mosques, the King spoke with hope that Jerusalem would eventually become a token and symbol of peace for all the faithful children of

Addressing an audience of foreign and Jordanian dignitaries, the King, who was flanked on the podium by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Abbadi, called the restoration of the Dome of the Rock Mosque "one of my

See page 5 for full text of King Hussein's speech

dearest achievements."

Monday's events included the "live coverage" on 12 television screens placed inside the Palace of Culture by Cable News Network (CNN), of the unveiling of the restoration works in Jerusalem, said host of Monday's ceremonies, Mahmoud Al Sherif, a former minister and renowned jour-

"Jerusalem," the King told the audience, which included representatives of 25 Muslim and Arab countries, "represents our common memory and our common faith."



A committee in charge of renovating the Islamic holy shrines in Jerusalem on Monday presents to

His Majesty a golden key to the Holy City (Photo by Yousef Al 'Alian)

Since Arab-Israeli peace talks were launched in Madrid in October 1991, Jordan has continuorsly stressed the importance of Arab rights in Jerusalem and has emphasised the need for Muslims to have

Muslim holy shrines in the Holy City.
The Oslo accord that the

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel signed in September puts off discussion about the future of Jerusalem

Israeli leaders have consistently said that the status of Jerusalem was "not negoti-Along with the right of re-

turn of refugees to pre-1967 (Continued on page 10)

BEIRUT (R) - Lebanon severed its diplomatic ties with Iraq on Monday after Baghdad refused to lift the immunity of two detained diplomats suspected of killing an Iraqi dissident in Beirut last week, ministers

Ministers who attended an emergency session of the Syrian-backed government of Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri told reporters the cabinet voted unanimously to cut ties with

Minister of State Hassan Izzeddine said: "The cabinet has unanimously voted for severing ties with Baghdad."

Baghdad last week rejected a Lebanese request to lift the immunity of Culture Attache Khaled Kathem and Commercial Attache Khaled Khalaf and hand over an embassy guard seeking refuge at the Iraqi embassy complex in Beirut.

The two diriomats, who Lebanese officials said had confessed to the murder, were detained hours after the April 12 killing of wealthy dissident Taleb Al Suheil at his home

Lebanon cuts ties with Iraq |Self-rule talks continue after acrimony; but still in trouble

CAIRO (Agencies) - Two Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegates who stormed out of self-rule talks with Israel at the weekend returned on Monday but their chief negotiator said the two sides could not agree on terms of an Israeli amnesty for

"I believe the situation is so dangerous and any more delay will only come with more negative results," Faisal Al Husseini told Reuters after attending celebrations marking the restoration of Jerusalem's

Cairo. PLO delegates Mohammad Dahlan and Jibril Al Rojoub walked out on Sunday in protest at Israel's refusal to increase the number of Palestinian prisoners scheduled for Chief PLO negotiator Nabil

The PLO has demanded the release of all the prisoners. But Israel has offered to set free only 5,000, saying it cannot free those Hamas supporters who might carry out acts of

In the past two weeks members of Hamas have killed 12 Israelis in two suicide bomb-

"Hopefully today some progress will be reached and the gap between the two sides will get narrower," Palestinian delegate Zohdi Kudra said. Mr. Husseini, asked if they unfortunately the Israelis are still coming with unacceptable solutions.

Israel's stand on prisoners is embarrassing to the PLO which wants to win the sympathy of opponents of the agreement by showing them that the peace deal is a national, not a factional, affairs.

A PLO delegate who declined to be named said the negotiators had instructions from the organisation's headquarters in Tunis to stand firm on demands for the release of 8,300 prisoners.

He said on the question of water rights in Gaza, the PLO team also had instructions to demand that Jewish settlers and Palestinians be allocated water supplies relative to the size of their populations there. He said Jewish settlers, who

make up a small minority of Gaza's inhabitants, received a disproportionate share of wa-

Jamil Tarifi, head of the PLO's negotiating team on civilian issues, said the Palestinians demanded the right to control water supplies and resources in the self-rule areas.

'Jerusalem permanent capital of Bilad Al Sham and the Arab Orient'

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Has-san said Monday Jerusalem would always remain the spiritual capital of Bilad Al Sham (Greater Syria) and the Arab Orient.

In an address at lunch he hosted in honour of Muslims and Christian clergymen and scholars participating in celebrations marking the completion of renovation works at the Dome of the Rock Mosque, Prince Hassan said he called on the Islamic World to overcome its disunity and press for its rights to the Holy

City of Jerusalem." Our will has taught us that we are able to achieve the impossible," said the Crown Prince, calling for learning from the spirit of Islam in dealing with present develop-

Prince Hassan reviewed the historic relations between Muslims and Christians, saying these relations were always characterised by tolerance and

brotherly feelings. He rejected notions that Islam and Muslims were radical, and said those promoting. such ideas do not like to mention the reasons for radicalism which is a general feature not limited to Muslims, The Crown Prince urged

Islamic ulema to support a project on the supervision of Jerusalem calling for highlighting the identity of Arab Christians in order to publicise the common values that Muslims and Christians share. This project, he said, was already launched by the Royal Commission on Jerusalem Affairs and the AL al Bait University.

He also pointed to the role the international organisations, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), should play to help break the psychological barriers in Jerusalem and to preserve its aesthetic features.

He urged Islamic scholars to unify their ranks at "these difficult times to serve the interests and causes of the nation

(Continued on page 10)

Sarid: Israel could return Golan to Syria for peace

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A key Israeli minister and senior peace negotiator said on Monday the Jewish state should give up its claims of sovereignty on the Golan Heights in return for peace and normal relations with Syria.

The comments by Environment Minister Yossi Sarid followed Israeli newspaper reports on Sunday that Israel will give U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher a proposal to deliver to Syria later this

The plan called for an unspecified pullout from the heights A Syrian government spokesman in Damascus said Syria would reject any Israeli proposal that did not include a clear readiness to withdraw fully from the Golan Heights which Israel seized in their

Responding to the newspaper reports carried by Israeli radio, the Syrian spokesman commented:

"The proposal is centred on achieving big gains for Israel -such as diplomatic ties, normalisation and security arrangements. This confirms there is nothing new in the Israeli posi-

tion," he said. "Svria will never accept anything less than full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan ... is Israel ready to return the land, the whole land? This is the Aquestion that needs to be

answered." Syria has long demanded a complete and unconditional Israeli pullout in exchange for a normalisation of ties, while Mr. Rabin in the past has indicated a willingness to give up parts of the Heights.

The two states have technically been in a state of war since the establishment of

Syria's official newspapers were sceptical of the reports, chafging they were a red her-ring to avoid a peace treaty with Syria. "Israel's game of work pap-

ers is no more than a new pretext to evade the prerequisites of the peace process and withdrawal from the Golan and other occupied Arab lands," said the Tishrin

It added that Israel's proposals for the principles of settlement with Syria focus on "gaining Israel huge benefits, a matter which demonstrates that the prevaricating Israeli stance is still unchangeable."

What Israel has called a document over withdrawal from the Golan," said the Al Baath newspaper, "would not be taken into consideration unless it implies a clear and an outspoken text about a full pullout from the Golan and not

in the Golan." "Syria will never accept anything short of this plain text ... otherwise Israel has brought nothing new," said the paper, mouthpiece of the ruling Baath

On Sunday, a Baath Party official charged that the United States and other countries were encouraging Israel to impede the peace process.

"Israel has been encouraged in doing so by lack of decisiveness on the part of the international community and failure to force it to implement U.N. resolutions" calling for a settlement based on land for peace, said Baath Assistant Secretary-General Abdullah Al Ahmar. He criticised a recent

announcement that Washington intends to sell 25 new F-151 fighter-bombers to Israel. Mr. Sarid, of the dovish Meretz Party, said Israel must

be convinced of its safety under strict security arrange-

"Israel must be prepared to give up its sovereignty on the Golan Heights, because without giving up sovereignty on the Golan it will not be possible to push forward the peace process and reach a positive result," he told Israel Radio.

Mr. Sarid, who has helped lead the Israeli team in nego-tiations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said Israel did not have a case for its territorial claims to the Golan Heights, where some 15.000 Jewish settlers live among 18,000 Syrians.

But he added: "Israel does have a case for justified de-

mands for security.
"The moment that security is guaranteed, the importance of the territory for its own sake

goes down decisively." He said he believed a majority of Israelis would back such a peace, because it would lead to a comprehensive settlement with Lebanon, Jordan and the Palestinians, the other parties to sluggish Middle East talks that began in October 1991.

Mr. Sarid has in the past voiced positions well ahead of their serious consideration by the more centrist cabinet. Mr. Rabin has said publicly

Israel could make a partial pullback but will not discuss it until Syria says if peace means Haaretz newspaper on Mon-

day said one peace plan presented to Mr. Rabin by an unnamed government body included a full withdrawal from the Heights after a 10-year waiting period. But Mr. Rabin's spokesman

Oded Ben-Ami said: "I don't (Continued on page 10)

Palestinian prisoners. In Amman, the PLO leader in the occupied territories said the negotiators must agree soon or the situation would deteriorate in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Dome of the Rock.

The PLO is insisting that the amnesty cover members of Hamas, which opposes the self-rule talks with Israel in

half of all the prisoners," Mr. Dahlan told reporters before going back into the talks.

Discussions on an amnesty for Palestinian prisoners, who number over 8,000, are part of negotiations covering pratical details on Israeli withdrawal and Palestinian rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Shaath, asked whether there were problems on the prisoners, replied with uncharacteristic pessimism: "There is a problem with everything.

might agree this week, said: "We are doing our best. But

Palestinian wounded after attack OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A Palestinian armed with an axe and two firebombs attacked passengers on a commuter bus Monday before

soldier, police said. Four Israelis were wounded. Two passengers were wounded by axe blows and two by the soldier who opened fire when the bus pulled to a halt outside an army base on the edge of Jerusalem, said police

being shot and wounded by a

commissioner Rafi Peled. Mr. Peled said the assailant belonged to Hamas. Israel Radio's Arabic language service reported that an anonymous caller claimed responsibility for the attack on behalf of Hamas.

The attacker was a 25-yearold Palestinian from Shuafat, a Jerusalem Arab neighbourhood close to the scene of the attack, Mr. Peled said.

The attack occurred on a red-and-white Tandem bus at . about 2:15 p.m. near the Jerusalem neighbourhood of Neveh Yaacov, which borders on the West Bank. Blood stained the road, a thoroughfare linking Jerusalem with the

West Bank town of Ramallah. The wounded Israelis were described as being in "stable to serious condition." The attacker, who was shot in the leg, was fair condition, the radio

Passenger Eli Tubul said the Palestinian launched his attack from the front of the bus. "He started shouting 'Allahu Akbar' and began hitting people," he said.

The attack follows two suicide bomb attacks this month in which buses were targetted and 12 Israelis were killed and 73 wounded. Those attacks were also claimed by Hamas, which opposes the Israel-PLO negotiations.

Mr. Peled said police were consulting with Egged, Israel's main bus company, to improve security, but that it was impossible to prevent all attacks in a mixed city like Jerusalem. Also Monday, an Israeli daily reported that Israel's domestic intelligence chief told the

government he expects chaos and bloodshed among Palestinians once the army withdraws from the occupied Gaza Strip. The assessment raises questions of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accord on Palestinian autonomy - that there will be an orderly transfer of power and that the PLO can take firm

The head of the Shin Bet secret service, responsible for intelligence gathering in the territories, gave his evaluation Sunday to the cabinet's weekly meeting, said Yedioth Ahronoth, a mass-circulation daily. The Shin Bet director, whose name is kept secret by law, predicted chaos and massacres among the Palestinians.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's spokesman, Oded Ben-Ami, on Monday refused comment on the assessment. which follows recent reports from Gaza and the West Bank of infighting among armed Palestinian factions,

The PLO's strongest rival in Gaza is Hamas, which opposes the autonomy accord, PLO sources have said there have. been meetings between the two factions on how to prevent friction and bloodshed once autonomy begins.

Passports of Hamas activists withheld By Nermeen Murad

Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN - Jordanian au-

thorities have withdrawn the passports of Hamas representative in Jordan Mohammad Nazzal and Hamas spokesman Ibrahim Gosheh, pending their decision on whether to comply with Jordanian regulations. Official sources said the two

men were summoned by the authorities and asked to "decide whether they are Palestinian — in which case they would be given a temporary two-year passport given to residents of the occupied territories, or they are Jordanian citizens who comply with Jordanian laws."

The sources said the two were also asked to refrain from making any statements claiming responsibility for attacks in the occupied territories. A senior Jordanian official

told the Jordan Times that the

government had intended to

curb the activities of Hamas in

but was pressured to publicise these measures after Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin issued a warning to Jordan charging that it was helping "We had already instructed the minister of interior to deal

with the issue before Rabin

had his press conference," the

senior official said. Hamas representatives were not available for comment Monday, but the movement issued a statement charging that Mr. Rabin was "creating fictitious conflicts to cover up for his political failure."

"The prime minister of the

enemy Yitzhak Rabin has issued a warning to Jordan in which he claimed that there is a leadership for Hamas on its territory and demanding that the Jordanian government take action against its activities,' the statement responded.

the confirmation by the Hamas (Continued on page 10)

"It is a failed attempt to use

Saddam says allies wanted to IAEA head blame Iraq for U.S. mistake

Saddam Hussein said Sunday Washington was forced to concede that its fighter iets had shot down two American helicopters in northern Iraq, because not all the victims were Americans or citizens of allied

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Speaking to army officers, President Saddam said the United States, Britain and France were involved in a "vicious pre-meditated plot" against

But the effort floundered because "there were some victims of other nationalities and a joint investigation would have exposed the truth," he said, in a statement carried by the official Iraqi News Agency.

President Saddam spoke at a military rally marking the anniversary of the recapture of the Fao Peninsula from Iran in the closing weeks of the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war, said the agency. It did not say where

the rally took place. Tehran's official news agency, meanwhile, claimed that Israeli delegates were aboard the helicopters.

Citing unnamed sources "close to the self-proclaimed Kurdish government" in northern Iraq, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said the Israelis were en route to secret meetings with Kurdish offi-

in southern Turkey on Sunday

for people killed when the two

helicopters were shot down in

northern Iraq. U.S. officials said U.S. De-

puty Defence Secretary John

Deutch and Admiral William

Owens, vice chairman of the

Joint Chiefs of Staff, attended

the services at Turkey's Incirlik

The Blackhawk helicopters

were carrying the officers and

Kurds to a remote Kurdish

village as part of the Operation Provide Comfort initiative.

Colonel Hikmet Alp and

lieutenants Barlas Gultepe and

Ceyhun Civas.
Gulcin Alp, the colonel's widow, said she would sue the

U.S. government if the pilots were found to have erred in the

incident, the newspaper Hur-

The helicopters went down

near the Kurdish village of

Tozka, 30 kilometres east of

Aqrah. The area is about 40

kilometres south of the Tur-

kish border and 80 kilometres

north of the 30th Parallel, the

southern limit of the no-fly

into the base for the services.

Reporters were not allowed

rivet reported on Sunday.

The Turks were identified as

air base.

Because of the Israelis' presence and the confidential nature of their mission, allied air forces patrolling Iraq's northern skies above the 36th Parallel had not been notified beforehand of the helicopters'

Both the Iranian and Iraqi agencies were monitored in

Cyprus. Washington said two American F-15 jet fighters inadvertently shot down the U.S. helicopters over northern Iraq Thursday, killing 26 people. The Pentagon said the victims were 15 Americans, five Kurds, three Turks, two Britons and a Frenchman.

Initial reports distributed by Kurdish officials whose forces control the region said Iraqi fighting jets had shot down the helicopters.

Reports of cooperation between Israel and Iraqi Kurds who have sought to oust the Iraqi regime have surfaced before. But these could not be

Services held for victims Memorial services were held

visits Iran

NICOSIA (AP) - The head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) arrived in Tehran on Monday to discuss nuclear cooperation with Iran, a country U.S. officials allege is engaged in clan-destine efforts to build nuclear

Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Cyprus, said Hans Blix, head of the Vienna-based nuclear watchdogs, was on a two-day visit. It said he would meet with Vice President Hassan Habibi, Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Reza Amrollahi, head of Iran's ato-

mic energy programme.

IRNA did not elaborate on Mr. Blix's visit, or say whether he would be inspecting any nuclear facilities. It said he. would "discuss cooperation between the IAEA and the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran.

In June, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher accused Iran of engaging in a secret programme to acquire nuclear and chemical weapons. He urged America's European allies to deny technology to Iran which could be used for military purposes.

Iran, a signatory of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. has said it wants nuclear energy for peaceful purposes but is uninterested in trying to obtain

an atom bomb.

Iranian officials say doubts expressed in the United States and elsewhere about Tehran's nuclear programme are politi-cally motivated. Washington considers Iran a rogue state on grounds it supports international "terrorism." An IAEA mission to Iran in

February 1992 reported nothing suspicious. Public statements by IAEA officials after the trip were criticised by some in the West as overly credu-In November, IAEA inspec-

tors, equipped with fresh intelligence from the United States, again visited Iran, but reported no evidence of wrongdoing.

Despite IAEA inspections,

Iraq came close to building an atom bomb. That was discovered only after the Gulf war. Iran's only functioning nuc-

lear reactors is a small research facility at Tehran University. That reactor is incapable of providing the kind of enriched uranium needed to build a nuclear bomb.

Iranian opposition charges that the Iranians are trying to piece together a nuclear weapons programme with equipment from the former Soviet Union.

A string of reports about Iran transferring nuclear weapons from the Commonwealth of Independent States have not been confirmed. One report alleging Iran had transferred weapons from Kazakhstan was denied by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) last

U.S. intelligence reports say it would take Iran at least 10 years to build its own nuclear bomb.

Under pressure from the United States, several countries have refused to export nuclear technology to Iran.

Last year Washington succeeded in dissuading India and the Czech Republic from selling nuclear technology to Iran. No such pledges have been made by Pakistan, which has admitted to having nuclear weapons capability, and by North Korea, which Washing-

ton suspects of having the technology and knowhow. Every year, both North Korea and Pakistan exchange military visits with Iran.

Last year China agreed to build a 300-megawatt nuclear power plant in Iran under IAEA supervision over U.S.

Food Control Centre

France throws up barrier to Algerian refugee 'wave'

PARIS (R) - Interior Minister Charles Pasqua has said France would refuse to accept any "wave" of refugees fleeing Algeria if Muslim fundamentalists took power in the

country. Mr. Pasqua, a tough-talking politician whose hardline policies have proved popular, also accused French judges of twisting his tough immigration laws in an interview published on Monday.

Asked about the possible effects of a victory of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) in Algeria, a former French territory, Mr. Pasqua told the conservative daily Le Figaro: "It is out of the question that

we would accept a wave of people coming from Algeria. We would not be able to take in tens of thousands of

"This has nothing to do with the right of asylum, which is a right of the individual. It is about the exodus of a popula-

tion." Italy and Spain would also face the same problem, he

Mr. Pasqua said the number of asylum requests made to French authorities by Alge-rians had climbed from 104 in

1992 to a little over 1,000 last "It is obvious that if the situation was to worsen in Algeria, we would risk receiving a greater number of requests," he said.

Diplomatic sources said Paris fears a collapse of state authority could spur upwards of half a million Algerians to fiee to France. Several thousand are already believed to be staying with relatives in

France on tourist visas. At least 3,500 Algerians have been killed in civil strife since an army-backed council cancelled a general election in January 1992 in which the FIS had taken a commanding lead.

Mr. Pasqua was the architect of tougher nationality and immigration laws enacted in mid-1993 to meet right-wing voters demands for a crackdown on

Saying the role of judges was to enforce these laws, he denounced what he called "an attempt by certain judges to create a jurisprudence which is against the law."

Two found dead

A kidnapped top official in Algeria's Religious Affairs Ministry, and a lawyer, have been found dead in a southern district of Algiers, the country's security services said.

The ministry official, Bel-kacem Abadi, was kidnapped last Wednesday from his home in the Muslim fundamentalist district of Larba, 25 kilometres south of the capital. His body was discovered in the suburb of Sidi-Moussa on Wednesday,

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State television said he was a ministry inspector while the security forces, quoted by the official news agency APS, termed him a sub-director in

the department. The body of lawyer Brahim Benghanem was found on Saturday in his office, also in Sidi-Moussa. He is the first lawyer known to have been killed since violence erupted after the authorities cancelled a general election in January 1992.

At least 10 magistrates have died since last May in attacks blamed by officials on Muslim

The security forces said that in the past week they had killed 11 armed Islamists in various operations, during which two of their own men were wounded.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amai militia commander killed by bomb

NABATTYEH (AP) — The military commander of the Syrian-backed mainstream Shiite Muslim Amal movement was killed in a booby-trapped car blast Monday, police reported. Nimeh Haidar, 34, was torn to pieces as he turned the key in the ignition of his car to go to work near this southern Lebanese market town around 8 a.m. (0500 GMT), according to police. They said an explosive charge wired to the engine was planted under the drivers seat, but added they had no motive for the killing. Mr. Haidar escaped at least two previous assassination attempts during Amal's war with its Shiite rivals, the Iranian-backed fundamentalist Hizbollah; from 1987 to 1990. An estimated 1,100 people were killed and 3,200 wounded in the struggle to master Lebanon's 1.2 million Shiites, who make up the largest single sect among the country's four million people.

Yemeni gets death sentence for extremism

HADRAMAWT, Yemen (AP) - The Hadramawt appeals court on Monday sentenced a Muslim fundamentalist to death on charges of committing acts of extremism and destruction. Judge Mohammad Al Yazidi handed down the penalty of death by firing squad to Saleh Omar Al Jarou, who was convicted for attempting to blow up public installations. The sentence will be referred to President Ali Abdullah Saleh for ratification. Judge Yazidi also pronounced a 15-year prison term for Sinan Belhareth who, like Jarou, is a member of the Islamic Jihad organisation. Belhareth, in collusion with Jarou and other convicts, last May attempted to blow up public property using rocket-propelled grenades and dynamite, according to the indictment. Three other defendants got five-year terms and two were acquitted.

\$4 million stolen from U.N. in Somalia MOGADISHU (AP) — The United Nations said Monday

that \$3.9 million had been stolen from the headquarters of its peacekeeping operation in Mogadishu, the "worst case" of theft yet for U.N. forces there. Tom White, chief of technical services for the mission, said a break-in apparently occurred in the pre-dawn hours of Sunday and an investigation was underway. UNOSOM, the U.N. operation in Somalia, did not announce the theft at regular briefings for reporters Sunday afternoon or this morning. Mr. White, questioned by an Associated Press reporter acting on an anonymous tip, said the money was taken from a safe in the heavily guarded finance section at UNOSOM headquarters. "It's the worst case of theft we've had since the operation began" in May, 1993, Mr. White said. The United Nations has been plagued by thefts in Mogadishu, especially since the United States withdrew its 4,000 troops in March. Reporters have noticed much more lax security, particularly at the city's port and airport. Most thefts, however, have been relatively small - food, office equipment and the like. Pakistani peacekeepers were searching all pedestrians and vehicles leaving the U.N. compound Monday. Passengers leaving Mogadishu on U.N. flights also had their

Turkish troops press assault in Iraq

SIRNAK, Turkey (AP) — At least 57 Kurdish guerrillas have been killed in a six-day-old offensive by Turkish troops in northern Iraq, a report said Sunday. About 5,000 troops moved across the border Tuesday to attack the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), which stages hit-and-run attacks into Turkey from bases in northern Iraq. Anatolia news agency said the operation, which included fighter-bombers, concentrated on the Sivi and Mezideryakeri regions Sunday. It said at least 57 rebels had been killed, but did not give casualties for government forces. Iraqi Kurds accept aid from the Turkish government and do not openly back the PKK, which has waged a violent campaign for autonomy in southeastern Turkey since 1984. More than 12,000 people have been killed in the fighting.

Kuwait kickbacks committee sets a boost

KUWAIT (AP) - A parliamentary subcommittee probing

investigate events leading up to the August 1990 Iraqi invasion. Deputies want to know why the government failed to anticipate the Iraqi onslaught and how billions of dollars in public money were lost to mishandling and embezzlement during that period. The newspaper did not provide any details on the kickbacks under investigation. However, committee member Mubarak Al Duwailah of the Islamic fundamentalist bloc has said that a senior ministry official has received \$100 million on weapons deals. The former defence minister, Sheikh Ali Al Sabah, has dismissed the accusations as unsubstantiated. Sheikh Ali became interior minister in last Wednesday's cabinet reshuffle. Deputy Mohammad Shrar, a member of the committee, told Al Anba that if the government fails to cooperate with the investigation, a "collision with it was inevitable."

Shahal appoints new police chief

TEL AVIV (AP) - Police Minister Moshe Shahal has appointed a new police commander after the country's top cop resigned following allegations that he accepted favours he accepted favours from a hotel chain. Asaf Hefetz, 49. the central district commander, was named as the new police chief after the resignation of Inspector General Rafi Peled. Mr. Hefetz joined the force in 1975 and helped found its anti-terrorist squad. The police shake-up was prompted when the supreme court ordered an investigation of accusations that Mr. Peled accepted personal favours, including deep discounts from a hotel chain. As a result of the ruling, Mr. Peled announced his resignation last Saturday although he maintained he had done nothing wrong. The appointment of Mr. Hefetz led Jerusalem district commander Yehuda Wilk to announce his resignation, citing different methods of opera-tion. Israel army radio said Mr. Hefetz had sharply criticised Mr. Wilk's decision to bar Jews from praying at the western wall while allowing Muslims to pray at the Al Aqsa Mosque when protests erupted in Jerusalem following the Feb. 25 Hebron massacre.

Iran wants joint exercises with neighbours. NICOSIA (AP) - Iran renewed Sunday its call for joint

military exercises with its Gulf Arab neighbours, in a new bid to alleviate tensions that have marred its ties with some of these countries. State-run Tehran Nadio quoted Major General Ali Shahbazi, the armed forces' joint chief of staff, as saying that "Iran is ready for joint manoeuvres with neighbouring this year Iran participated in naval manoeuvres with Pakistan, the first joint war games with a foreign country since the 1979 Islamic revolution. For several years Iran has been trying to woo other Gulf countries into signing a military pact with Tehran, but to no avail. Six of Iran's neighbours are membersof the Gulf Cooperation Council, an economic and security alliance comprising Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman, Some of these states have often voiced concern over Iran's massive rearmament programme which they fear is designed to build the persian state into a regional superpower. Saudi Arabia's relations with Tehran have been marred by differences since the rise of the Islamic republic, which at one stage sought to export its brand of Muslim fundamentalism to neighbouring states. More recently, the two have been bickering over oil policies within the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting countries and also over the number of pilgrims Iran will be allowed to send to Saudi Arabia during the pilgrimage season in May. The UAE, meanwhile, is feuding with Iran over three Gulf islands sovereignty over which is claimed by both countries. The radio quoted Gen. Shahbazi as saying that the government was using military facilities to conduct research. Gen. Shahbazi said 50 billion rials (\$28.5 million) had been invested for these projects, without elaborating on them.

Turkey urges end to arms embargo on Bosnia

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin on Sunday called on the United Nations to end an arms embargo against Bosnian Muslims. "The U.N., which has failed to

Military court to try Alfi attackers

CAIRO (R) - An Egyptian military court will try a group of suspected militants accused of attempting to blow up the interior minister last year, the government newspaper Al Ahram said in its Monday edi-

President Hosni Mubarak on Sunday issued a decree that the men should go before a military court. They face the death sentence if convicted, Al Ahram said.

They are allegedly members of the militant group Jihad, which assassinated President Anwar Sadat in 1981 and targets public figures in its battle to overthrow the Egyptian government and establish a strict Islamic state.

Al Ahram did not say how many would stand trial, but Interior Minister Hassan Al-Alfi told a news conference last week police had arrested 30 members of Jihad in raids over the past two weeks in connection with the attempt to kill

General Alfi escaped death in central Cairo on Aug. 18 last year when a bomb exploded just before his motorcade passed. The explosion killed two

militants and three civilians. Al Ahram said the primary suspects were Mohammad Abdul Halim Khalifa and Mohammad Rashad.

Gen. Alfi said police had killed the group's leader, Adel Awad Siyam. Officials said Siyam was killed in the southwestern Cairo suburb of Moneeb on April 4.

Khalifa, Siyam's brother-inlaw, was in the same car when Sivam was killed. The men will also be charged

with the murder in February of a prosecution witness in a case against militants who tried to blow up Prime Minister Atef Sedki in November, Al Ahram They will face charges of

arms possession and setting off a bomb in July last year near a Cairo youth club where police officers were doing physical training, the paper added. The bomb caused minor

damage but no casualties. Gen. Alfi said last week that other members of Siyam's group were still at large.

The controversial military courts set up by Mr. Mubarak to bypass normal judicial practice and ensure harsh punishment for militants have sent-



December 1992.

southern Egypt for the first time in more than a month on Saturday night.

Cairo but no one was injured, security sources said. Some windows were broken, a witness said.

in Egyptian prisons.

members arrested over the past week, the group would start operations in areas which have so far been quiet, it said in a statement faxed to an

Cairo, at about midnight.

attacked in roughly the same area this year but the last one was on March 8. Police said that in a gun battle on March 21 they killed six members of the group responsible for the attacks.



been executed since June 1993 for attacking public figures and to overthrow the government. More than 360 people have been killed in political violence in Egypt over the past two

responsibility and said the Unless the authorities released hundreds of Gamaa

international news agency. The attack took place near

The Gamaa, which is espe-

Thirty-one militants have

Militants attacked a train in

They opened fire on a sleep-er travelling from Aswan to

The militant group Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah claimed attack was part of a campaign against human rights violations

the town of Abu Tig, on the Nile 340 kilometres south of Eight trains have been

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the rest of Assiut province, has claimed responsibility for all the previous attacks.

In its statement the group said: "The operation is the fifth in the armed campaign to put an end to the most horrible violations of human rights seen in Egyptian prisons for years."
"The hysterical behaviour of

the Interior Ministry after the assassination of the state security official in charge of extremism — arresting at random hundreds of Gamaa members in quiet areas - will only escalate matters and add to the tension," it added.

The state security officer was police Major-General Raouf Khayrat, killed in an ambush by the Gamaa in Cairo on Ápril 9.

"Failing to release these innocents immediately can mean only two things - more armed areas will be drawn into the cauldron of the current conflict... (and) more security, tourist and investment targets will be added," it said.

The Gamaa has been trying to hurt the government by damaging Egypt's lucrative tourist industry and by planting bombs at banks to scare off

customers. It says its ultimate objective is to overthrow the govern-ment and set up a strict Islamic

Security sources say the police have arrested hundreds of people in Cairo over the past three days but only a minority were suspected members of militant groups.

USEFUL TELEPHONE

NUMBERS

alleged kickbacks on weapons purchases has assumed the power to refer suspects to the prosecutor-general, press reports said. Al Anba daily said the move, allowed under Kuwaiti legislative regulations, came after the defence under-secretary, Faisal Al Dawoud, refused to hand over documents related to the allegations. The newspaper quoted Mr. Dawoud as saying his refusal was "based on directives from the higher command," but did not elaborate. The subcommittee is part of a larger parliamentary commission set up in December 1992 to

protect the Bosnian Muslims, should at least allow them to protect themselves against the Serbian aggressors," Mr. Cetin said in an interview on Turkish television. Mr. Cetin said indecisive and inept U.N. and Western policies had encouraged Bosnian Serb forces to renew attacks on the Bosnian Muslim enclave of Goradze. He said the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Operation (NATO) had suffered a severe blow to their credibility because of their inability to restore peace in Bosnia. "The U.N. and NATO should back up their resolve with force, the only thing thhe Serbs understand," Mr.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

PROCRAMME TWO

16:12

	WIND INC
17:30	Envoy Special
19-66	News in French
19:15	Grand Galops
19-30	News in Hebrew
19-45	Medical Druss
10.00	Medical Drugs
Arios	Beyond 2000
	Moog Over Miami
22:00	News in English
22:20	The Cape Rebel
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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 654932 Church of Nazarene Tel.675691. The Evangelical Local Church in

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR .

AMMAN: Amman Maternity, J. Amn... 64/281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn... 64/241/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 642/42/2 Malhas, J. Anman Palestine, Shmeisan 636140 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 Al-Muasher Hospital The Islamic, Abdali Al-Ahli, Abdali Italian, Al-Muhajreer 666127/37 664164/6 777101/3 75111/26 787111 Queen Alia Hospital Amal Hospital . 010230 ZAROA: Zarqa Govt, Hospital Zarqa National Hospital ... Ibn Sina Hospital Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)983323

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HOSPITALS

Princess Bassus Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital Inn Al Naices Hospital... . (03)314111 POR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. APPIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Moscar, Alm Dhahi (RJ

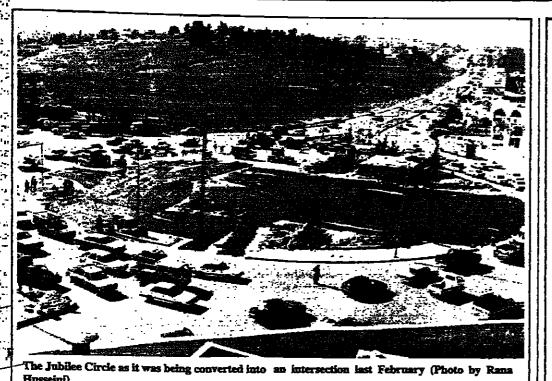
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HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN



Amman municipality to finish street mapping, renaming

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Amman Municipality is in the process of finishing the "Street Map and Renaming Project" to identify all streets and important sites in the capital, according to Marwan Elayan, director of the Naming and Numbering Department at the muni-

Mr. Elayan told the Jordan Times that the municipality's first step is to name and number every street and house in Amman, so that people will start recognising their street names and use them in their addresses.

The municipality, he said, has issued 11 area maps, with two more awaiting printing, as part of a plan that will cover the Amman area and its suburbs.

The projects include changing some street names, Mr. Elayan said, adding that this measure raised some complaints because in the process, names of some-of the streets have been given to other streets, which created

Mr. Elayan said residents have no reason to worry ab-

out the change because the municipality will be willing to belp them with the new names and locating the old addresses.

"The municipality tries to avoid renaming streets as much as possible, but sometimes due to certain conditions, it is forced to do it," Mr. Elayan said.

In addition, he said that when a new name is given to an already named street, the municipality takes the existing name and applies it to another street.

According to Mr. Elayan, the municipality is attempting to honour renowned Arab and Jordanian figures by naming some of the streets in the city after them.

Mr. Elayan said the municipality started the project at the end of 1992. There are 7,000 streets in the capital, he said, adding that the municipality contacted the Telecommunications Department, the Civil Defence, police stations. and all concerned authorities to inform them of the new procedures of using street

According to Mr. Elayan, the areas covered include the

divided into 20 districts. The maps of 13 districts are already finished and printed.

The areas include downtown, Basman, Marka, Nasser, Yarmouk, Ra's Al Ein, Bader, Zahran, Abdali, Tarek and Jubeiha, Wadi Sir and Tla'a Al Ali, Um Al Sumak and Khalda.

The municipality, in cooperation with the Geographic Centre in Amman, are in the process of publishing a book-let called "Amman Compre-hensive Guide," Mr. Elayan

The booklet is expected to be completed in the next few months, and the municipality will publish a similar booklet in English to help foreigners residing or visiting the King-dom to benefit from it.

"This step by the municipality is also a contribution to encouraging tourism in the Kingdom and helping people find their way about," said

Mr. Elayan. He added that the Naming and Numbering Department is expected to finish the street naming and the maps by the end of 1995.

Nursing development unit opens in Salt

nurses and patients.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Health Abdul Rahim Malhas and Italian Ambassador to Jordan Romualdo Bettini opened "Nursing Development Unit" in King Hussein Hospital in Salt.

The new unit is part of the Clinical Instructor Programme that represents a joint effort by the Ministry of Health and the Italian Cooperation for Development to improve the quality of nursing care in Jordan.

The Clinical Instructor Programme initiated in 1987 has two main components:

- A clinical instructor course that prepares nurses to be clinical instructors responsible for organising the inservice training activities for nurses in the hospital through on-the job training, seminars and workshops.

- Setting up a network of Nursing Development Units (one in each of the main ministry hospitals in the country) that provides educational resources for in-service training as well as planning, implementing and evaluating continuing education activities

tailored to meet the needs of

The new unit of the Salt hospital has been provided with a television and video cassette recorder - nursing books, training doll, educational films, photocopy machine, typewriter, overhead projector, multi-purposes tables as well as a yearly supply of stationary for production of learning materials based on the educational activities planned within the six month plan developed by the clinical instructor responsible for the unit.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Majali urges planning in tourism

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Monday stressed the need to set up a higher organisational council whose tasks will include developing the Aqaba and Petra regions. At the weekly meeting of the department directors of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Dr. Majali requested that speedy measures be taken to develop touristic attractions in Jordan, pointing that determination and planning are the way to distinguished achievements. He underlined the importance of holding periodic meetings between officials and department heads to discuss recent developments and resolve various problems and activate the tourism activities sector in the Kingdom. Tourism and Antiquities Minister Mohammad Adwan reviewed at the meeting plans to develop touristic attractions in Petra, the Dead Sea and Aqaba.

House to hold extraordinary session Wednesday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament holds its first meeting of the first extraordinary session Wednesday under the chairmanship of Speaker Taher Masri and in the presence of the Cabinet members. The meeting will be opened by reading the Royal Decree which ordered the convening of the session. Afterwards, the House will refer to its specialised committees an amendment to the 1994 Public Security Law, an amendment to the 1994 Jordanian Universities Law, a draft law on the Applied Sciences University and on higher education in Jordan. The House is expected also to resume its debate on decisions by its Financial Committee on the 1994 sales tax draft

Jordan, Pakistan discuss energy

AMMAN (Petra) — Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Walcod Assour Monday received Pakistani Minister of Industry Mohammad Asghar and discussed with him means of enhancing Jordanian-Pakistani cooperation in energy-related fields. The meeting was

attended by Pakistani Ambassador to Jordan Tareq Afridi and Ministry of Energy and vimeral Resources Secretary General Abdul Wahab Al Zubi.

Malaysia, Jordan discuss customs

AMMAN (Petra) - Director General of the Income Tax Department Mansour Haddadin Monday received a delegation representing the the Malaysian Customs Department currently on a visit to Jordan for talks with officials to sign an agreement on Jordanian-Malaysian relations in customs-related issues. Mr. Haddadin briefed the delegation on the Jordanian Income Tax Law. The delegation started its four-day talks at the Income Tax Department

Madaba vocational workshops set up

MADABA (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has established five vocational workshops at Hisban, Faisaliya, Lubb, Diban, Maeen and Al Jabal schools in Madaba district, Madaba Education Department Director Abdullah Al Luwama said Monday. Mr. Luwama said the ministry is currently constructing buildings for three model schools in Madaba as part of its educational development plans. These schools, which will include 42 classrooms, will be built at a cost of JD3.5 million.

Construction materials fair to open

AMMAN (Petra) — The Fourth Jordan Fair on Construction Materials will be opened at Amman International Expo in Marj Al Hamam Thursday. About 60 firms from Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Tunisia, Germany, Italy and Austria will take part in the fair, organised by the fordan contractors and construction firms associations. The fair which will be opened by Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Razzaq Ensour will display modern central heating equipment, construction systems, water purification equipment and machinery used in construction works.

13th ship denied entry to Aqaba this year

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A vessel carrying Canadian newsprint and unprocessed sanitary paper for the Jordanian market Monday became the 13th ship denied entry to Aqaba this year by the U.S.-led naval force patrolling the Red Sea, shipping officials said.

The interception comes amid stepped-up contacts by Jordan to put an end to the damaging inspection of all Agaba-bound vessels as part of enforcing the 45-monthold international sanctions

against Iraq.

Jordan, which is staying away from formal participation in the U.S.-backed Arab-Israeli peace negotia-tions until the blockade of Aqaba is lifted, is exerting efforts with France, Britain and other countries in an effort to prevent further economic losses caused by the costly delays resulting from the Red Sea inspections.

It is estimated that Jordan lost \$1.2 billion in extra charges levied by shipowners on freight to Aqaba because of the uncertainties over the fate of Jordan-bound cargo at the mercy of the inspectors backed by the U.S. navy.

Beyond the economic los-ses, Jordan has said, that the inspections and delays are deliberate harassment aimed at pressuring the Kingdom to make sweeping illogical concessions to Israel in the peace

His Majesty King Hussein reaffirmed this week Jordan's stand that the Kingdom's participation in the peace process was contingent on an end to the siege of Aqaba. He said that while Jordan remained committed to a negotiated peace in the Middle East, the Kingdom refused to be targetted for pressure and mistrust and "humiliated as a people" and still be expected to play a positive role in the peace

The King also said there were "positive" signs that the problem was being addressed. Diplomats here believe that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who is reportedly expected in the Middle East in the last week of April, might bring with him an American answer to a proposal to replace the seabased inspections with onshore checks at Aqaba by a neutral, international agency such as Lloyds Register of

Reporting on the latest interception, shipping officials said Monday that the Ikan-Seleyang, which is carrying 4,000 tonnes of paper cargo for Jordan, was intercepted Sunday evening by the naval force patrolling the Red Sea.

The vessel was boarded and inspected after an overnight wait at the Tiran Straits at the mouth of the Gulf of Agaba and the inspectors ruled that they did not have accessibility to inspect not only the Jordan-bound cargo but also others stowed in the ship's holds, the officials said. The Ikan Selayang was

waiting at the straits as of Monday evening while the ship's agents and other concerned parties were in touch with the Bahrain headquarters of the U.S. Central Command, which is directly in charge of inspecting all Anaba-bound vessels, they

If the efforts did not succeed to have the ship proceed to Agaba, then it would head for Dubai, where the Jordanbound cargo would be unloaded, they said. This would mean another ship picking up the cargo from Dubai and ferrying it to Aqaba, leading to a full sea-freight to be paid

In turn, the importers will reflect their extra cost on the actual market prices of the product, and the consumer will end up paying the price for the inspection, the shipping officials noted,

The Ikan Selayang was the 13th ship to be blocked by the U.S.-led inspectors this year, compared with a total of 20 during 1993. More than 1,700 ships were closely inspected among 20,000 bailed over the radio and over 8,500 actually boarded, but until now no vessel was found to be carrying any "contraband" car-go headed for Aqaba in violation of the sanctions against

> A ship carrying bagged detergents for Jordan was turned away on April 8 by the inspectors. The vessel had to proceed to another Red Sea port to rearrange cargo for inspections. It was allowed to proceed, and it docked at Aqaba on Sunday, a 10-day delay resulting in tens of thousands of dollars in losses.

> "The situation is getting out of hand," said Sufian Muhaisen, manager of the Jordan Shipping Agents Association. "Don't think the country can take it anymore. The losses are mounting and importers are turning

away from using Aqaba as much as possible in order to avoid the high freight costs."

Shipowners apply extra charges of \$1,000 per 40-ft. container and \$500 per 20-ft. container and \$15 to \$20 per tonne of loose cargo bound for Aqaba to offset their losses resulting from the delays and diversions to other ports. The cost of transshipment has to be borne by the importer if the ship was forced to offload Jordan-bound cargo at other

Mr. Muhaisen said: "We hope Secretary Christopher would bring with him a solution to the problem. Otherwise, the situation is going to he worse."

Following King Hussein's March 28 notice to the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council that Jordan was suspending participation in the peace process, the various U.S. departments involved in policy-making and enforcement were to have met on the proposal to move the inspections to the port of Agaba and to authorise Lloyds Register to conduct the inspections.

No details have emerged on how Washington was responding to the proposal.

RSS to prepare plan for Ruseifa development

By Elia Nasrallah Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) has undertaken a contract to prepare master plan for the development of nearly 15,000 dunums of land in Ruseifa where the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) first started mining the mineral in the 1930s. Seifeddin Maaz, director of

the RSS's Building Research Centre, told the Jordan Times Monday that his department is involved in preparing the plan which entails environmental, and geological studies and a full survey of the state-owned land that had been granted to the JPMC as a concession for phosphate mining.

A contract signed between the JPMC and the RSS in the past week provides for conducting the studies, preparing the master plan and giving advice on how the land can best be developed for residential, sports, municipal ser-

vices and other purposes. "Once the task has been completed in five months, the whole plan would be turned over to the JPMC and the concerned municipal author-

the Environment Research Centre and the Industrial task," added Dr. Maaz. According to Jamil Weri-

tor, mining of phosphate at

Ghoethe-Institut at 7:00 p.m.

ities," said Dr. Maaz.

Studies Department at the RSS in implementing the

"The Building Research Centre is cooperating with

WHAT'S GOING ON

LECTURES

☆ Lecture with slides entitled "Renaissance Europe: Un-

covering the Essentials of Painting" by Mrs. Nelly Lama at

Lecture in Arabic entitled "Arab Borders, Why and Where?" by Dr. Khaldom Nwalhed at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman at 6:00 p.m.

TV5 VARIETY PROGRAMME

☆ Programme in French entitled "Les Grands Jours Du

EXHIBITIONS

🜣 Exhibition by artist Mustafa Al Hallaj at Baladna Art

Plastic art exhibition by artist Ali Minurat at the Royal

* Art exhibition by artist Latifa Yousef at the Royal Cultural

★ Exhibition by artists Alia Ammoura, Dorathy Mango, Hind

P ser, Janine Saaf, Lucy Marto, Tete Wegelins at Ab'ad Art Gallery (10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.) (Tel. 819861).

Exhibition of calligraphy at Orfali Art Gallery (Tel.

☆ Paintings exhibition by Jordanian and Lebanese artists Jamal Khamis and Jehad Abu Suleiman at Alia Art Gallery

☆ Graphics exhibition by artist Burhan Saleh Mehammad at

the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 695291).

Engraving exhibition by artist Jean-Pierre Pincemin at the

Exhibition by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at the Italian

"Spring Exhibition 1994" at the Jordan Plastic Art Associa-

Language Centre (9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.) (Tel. 669348)

NEWS ROUND-UP

Gallery, Gardens St. (Tel. 687598).

(9:30 -13:30, 15:00-18:00) (Tel. 639303).

French Cultural Centre-

tion Gallery (Tel. 699914).

Cultural Centre.

Siecle" at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.

kat, JPMC production direc-

east of Amman, has stopped since 1985, but the JPMC feels that it should contribute to the socio-econome development of the area where the com-pany had benefited from the phosphate for nearly 50

the site near Ruseifa, north

Mr. Werikat, an engineer, told the Jordan Times that the JPMC is paying the RSS JD120,000 to prepare the master plan and maps for the development project and will later help the concerned municipal authorities to carry out the various aspects of the

"We also intend to set up a museum at the site that would house items related to the development of the phos phate mining industry in the Kingdom," added Mr. Weri-

"Local residents have been setting up homes haphazardly in the same area and many have built homes without licences on this state-owned land," Mr. Werikat added.

"In the master plan we are taking into account environmental as well as social and economic considerations in order to bring back life to the area for the benefit of the Ruseifa residents," said the JPMC official.

He said a committee chaired by the Zarqa governor and grouping repre-sentatives of the JPMC, the RSS and the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) as well as the Ruseifa mayor has been formed to follow up the implementation of the plan.

Industrialists, experts to discuss polymer science in plastics production

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — More than 35 Jordanian industrialists have been invited to attend a session Tuesday dedicated to discussing polymer science and its applications in the plastics industry, according to Naji Al Shaikh from the Uni-

versity of Jordan.
Dr. Shaikh told the Jordan. Times Monday that the session which is part of the Third Conference on Physics of Condensed Matter that was opened at the University of Jordan Monday, was considered paramount to Jordanian industries, especially those that are related to the

plastics industry. Dr. Shaikh, who is the conference rapporteur, said the session Tuesday will be held at the Applied Sciences University, the conference's co-organisers.

The first day of the three-. day event which was opened by Mohammad Maqousi, the



University of Jordan Vice President for Academic affairs Monday addresses the opening session of Third Conference on Physics of Condensed Matter at the university

University of Jordan's vicepresident for academic affairs, was attended by 30 participants from non-Jordanian universities and re-search centres and 50 Jorda-

man physicists. The researchers Monday discussed working papers dealing with conduction, solar cells and theoretical and applied physics. The industrialists session Tuesday is to

focus on topics related to the

industry and plastic materials, said Dr. Shaikh. In his opening speech, Dr. Maqousi described the con-

ference as an important forum contributing to promoting inter-action between the industrial sector and the research centres. Delegates attending the sessions, said Dr. Shaikh,

came from Egypt, Iraq, Syria, the U.S. and Turkey in addition to Jordan.

Minister calls for proper handling, use of fertilisers

AMMAN (Petra) — Industry and Trade Minister Rima Khalaf Monday called for appropriate handling and use of chemical fertilisers to reduce their damaging effects on water and the environment in general.

Opening a four-day meeting to discuss chemical fertilisers and their use in the Arab World, the minister said that chemical fertilisers are among the main elements required at present to increase agricultural production and ensure food

security.
Chemical fertilisers have been increasingly used in Jordan and the rest of the Arab countries because they are as important to agriculture on pesticides, tractors and farm equipment, said Dr. Khalaf. But, she said, the use of chemicals has resulted in many negative consequences because

they affect soil and under ground water sources as well as Sameh Madani, director

general of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) and head of a coordination committee for the fertiliser industry in Jordan, told the meeting that the industry has been facing adverse effects from economic, environmental and political changes around the world.

He said, in many countries regulations to safeguard the environment have had their negative impact on trading and marketing of chemical fertilis-ers, which sometimes are ha: mful to man, animal and their environments.

In terms of trade, the collapse of the Soviet Union resulted in the flooding of world markets with cheap fertilisers made in countries of the former eastern European bloc which are cash-strapped and in desperate for hard currency, said Mr. Madani.

Arab Potash Company (APC) Director Suleiman Hawari told the meeting that chemical fertilisers are marketed more in countries seeking to expand agricultural production to meet the growing

demand for food. The meeting, which is organised in cooperation with the Arab Federation of Chemical Fertiliser Producers, is attended by delegates from

Arab states. Chemical fertilisers technology, phosphatic fertilisers, ammonium phosphate, fertiliser production and training of personnel, as well as ensuring environmental safety are among the main topics on the

Japanese T.V. to produce

By Ian Atalla

AMMAN - The NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) has decided to produce a 40-minute documentary on the life of Jordanian people which will be aired nationwide in Japan on a prime-time television

The goal of the film will be to give Japanese viewers a picture of the everyday life of Jordanians in both the cities as well as the rural and bedouin areas, said Hiroshi Korike, cultural attache at the Japanese embassy in Am-

"Jordan is really not known among the Japanese people," Mr. Korike told the

by saying that although peo-ple in Japan have had much previous exposure to what is happening in Jordan and the surrounding region politically through the news media, "they do not have any ideas as to what the normal, everyday life of the country's people is like."

Mr. Korike added that Jordan is of particular interest because of the balance in its population between those who lead a thoroughly modernised lifestyle in Jordan's cities and those who maintain a strictly traditional lifestyle in rural areas and the deserts.

"In other parts of the Arab World, it is not always so easy to find both of these two ways of life side by side," said

The prime-time TV series which will be broadcasting the documentary is called Travelling All Around the World," and is broadcast nationally in Japan every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.

The NHK's four-person crew which will film the documentary has not yet set its exact schedule, said Mr. Kiroke. It will arrive in Jordan on April 23 and travel to Agaba and Wadi Rum to take footage there, and may then conduct additional filming in Karak and Amman.

The crew will then return to Japan sometime in mid-May, and if the film's editing goes according to schedule, the documentary will be aired in Japan at the beginning of

ABC Weekly News Highlights and the MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Center at 5:00 p.m. Jordan Times. He explained

documentary on life in Jordan

Special to the Jordan Times

series in June.

June, he said.

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Vision for Jerusalem

THERE CAN be no peace without the restoration of Arab rights in Jerusalem, Muslim and Christian. This was the essence of His Majesty King Hussein's message to the world yesterday at the ceremony held to celebrate the completion of renovation work at the Dome of the Rock Mosque in the Holy City. Jordan and the Hashemite leadership have historic as well as future links to Jerusalem. In the early days of Islam, the early Muslim rulers entered the city in peace and offered peace to its people. And in modern times the Hashemites had associated themselves with the well-being of the city and its inhabitants. As for the future, Jordan realises that unless Arab, Muslim and Christian rights in the Holy City are restored to their rightful owners, a lasting peace will be hard to attain. Muslims will not accept to visit a city they consider their third sacred place while it is under Jewish control, no matter what assurances and guarantees Israel is willing to offer to ensure access and freedom of worship. The sensitivity by which the adherents of any of the three monotheistic religions view each other will not be tempered down if one had total control of the city. On the contrary, that sensitivity and resentment will only grow. And that does not bode well for the future of the city named "the City of Peace."

The history of the city for millennia had been characterised by strife. Each party that considered it sacred wanted to have it for its own.

If the children of Abraham, Christians, Jews and Muslims, want to put an end to those centuries of bloodshed they have to settle for sharing the city. It need not be the capital of only one of them. It can be the eternal capital of the whole world from whence comes the eternal light of peace.

Jordan has no political ambitions in Palestine or elsewhere in the world. The only ambition it has is to live peacefully among peace-loving and amicable neighbours. It wants peace that will hold, endure and last; peace that would be acceptable to this and to future generations. And Jordan realises very well that that peace will not come along unless the Arab, Muslim and Christian claims are addressed and their rights restored. That is why peace must come to Jerusalem and to all the hearts that yearn for the city first. Otherwise the wound will not heal, will fester and one day explode, shattering any deal that does not address this very

To bring peace to Jerusalem is not a difficult task. The hearts of good men are full of vision. Will this vision light the hearts of the occupiers? We certainly pray so.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

WITH THE completion of work on the refurbishing of the Dome of the Rock, the Hashemites have added one more luminous chapter in their long history of services to Islam and the Arab Nation, said Al Ra'i daily Monday. Commenting on celebrations marking the completion of the work on the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem, the paper said that His Majesty King Hussein has never stopped exerting efforts for protecting Jerusalem and its holy shrines and defending Arab and Islamic rights. Over the past decades, King Hussein has sought to abort all conspiracies against the Muslim as well as the Christian rights in the Holy City, the paper said. The restoration of holy shrines, it said, is just one more part of this relentless effort in the face of world Zionism's attempts to Judaise Arab and Islamic land. With the celebration today (yesterday), said the paper, the Hashemites have added one more achievement that would serve the Islamic World and

A COLUMNIST IN Ai Dustour daily Monday urged the Arab countries involved in the peace process with Israel to open their eyes to the fact that the peace sought by the Jewish state is a different one from that the Arabs are earnestly seeking. Walid Abu Baker said that Israel is acting in a manner to steer the peace process towards a direction that would ensure protection of its own interests and secure protection for the Israeli people. To achieve this end, the Israeli government has blamed Jordan for allegedly harbouring Hamas, blamed Syria for hosting Palestinians opposed to the peace process and continued its attacks on southern Lebanon to end the resistance on that front, said the writer. What is more the Israeli government is demanding that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) provide protection to the Jewish settlers and settlements during the autonomy rule, though it realises that the resistance inside the occupied Arab lands was bound to continue, according to the writer. He said that Israel has ensured some security though its external wars, but it is now unable to control the internal front and is trying, to shift the

blame on others.

The View from Fourth Circle

The media, the past and the challenge

THE STATE of the news media in Jordan, especially the government-run official media, is one of the most important but least discussed aspects of our contemporary political culture. The media is also at a potential turning point for the better or the worse, and therefore it warrants public assessment at a more comprehensive level than we have witnessed recently in the press.

The recent discussions about the new Arabic language television show "60 Minutes" and the airing of Arabic language serials and international football games on Channel 12 only touch the tip of the iceberg of our official media. Deeper down, there is a very powerful world that remains largely outside the realm of public debate, and mostly in the hands of (usually life-long) government bureaucrats who are not directly subjected to public accountability.

Some very important questions about the ownership, management and content of the government-owned media should be raised and answered these days, along with wider questions about the most appropriate interaction between the government, the privately owned press and the people's right to know. It is sad to see how after five years of political liberalisation in Jordan, the three primary instruments of democratisation — Parliament, the political parties, and the press — should all suffer obvious credibility gaps in the eyes of

I understand why Parliament and the parties should be slow to develop deep-rooted credibility and authentic power; both are foreign imports that are new to our political and social culture. The media is different, though, and should be less hindered by the pervasive and irritating legacy of the made-in-Europe imported political institutions that have awkwardly defined most of the Arab World since the 1920s. There should not be any major reason why our official and private media cannot achieve higher standards of excellence, impartiality and credibility.

I have been associated with the Jordanian media for nearly 20 years, and therefore I raise the issue of the quality of our media as one whose personal and professional life is closely tied to it. Despite the restrictions on press freedom that we have always had to live with -- and that we accept with realism and pragmatism - I have always been proud of my work as a journalist in Jordan, mainly through the Jordan Times. I was privileged to be associated with Jordan Television for two and a half years (1990-1992), during a moment of slow but steady and enlightened liberalisation that saw the television emerge as a constructive element in Jordan's national development.

In the last several years, however, many people sense that the Jordanian media has regressed, perhaps due to the fears and uncertainties that are associated with a region in the midst of historic change. The spirit of honesty and constructive pluralism that defined the media from the summer of 1989 seems to have given way to more traditional Middle Eastern patriarchal modes of governance, wherein the state-owned media's role is primarily one of orientation and guidance according to the government's policies, rather than of providing a forum for an exchange of ideas.

The official media's performance on the question of the sales tax, for example, has been less than balanced, with a preponderance of views on television and radio for the tax and little airing of voices against the tax. (If you're wondering where I stand on the sales tax issue, I am all for it). The television and radio also performed inadequately during the parliamentary elections last year, when we missed the oppor-

tunity to present the Arab World with an enlightened model of the state media as an instrument of dissemination of the rich diversity of our political sentiments and ideologies. Existing talk shows largely refrain from honestly and dispassionately addressing the big issues facing the Arab World — Islamist politics, the fate of pan-Arab identity, the questions of water, food and debt, political relations among Arab states, ties with large neighbours such as Iran and Turkey, the progress or regression of pluralism and democratisation and the future of the Arab region in the wake of the end of the cold war and the imminent resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Some people say these issues are too sensitive to discuss on the state media; I say that they are too important for the state media to ignore, because ignoring them means leaving our fate to be determined by a combination of rumour and fatalism before the forces that are reshaping our region.

"In the last several years, however, many people sense that the Jordanian media has regressed, perhaps due to the fears and uncertainties that are associated with a region in the midst of historic change."

The first question we should ask is whether or not we still need a ministry of information. Frankly, I am embarrassed by the fact that we still have such a relic from the early days of Arab intellectual totalitarianism that was born in the crucible of Nasser's Egypt. The present Minister of Information is probably the best one we've ever had, because he's too busy doing other, more important things to give much time or attention to running the ministry. He deserves an award for political enlightenment.

The very concept of a ministry of information is politically and intellectually outdated. It smacks of a combination of arrogance and mind control on the part of the government that are totally incompatible with the concepts of democratisation, freedom and pluralism that we utter every other minute these days. Egypt burdened the world with the ministry of information concept in the 1950s, at a moment when it was embracing the military-authoritarian style of governance that would define our region for most of the second half of this century. The ministry of information concept was designed to control the flow of news to the public, to offer only a singular, governmental perspective on the news of the day and to engage in rhetorical battles with other states, whether Israel, Arab states, or western powers. This is the ugly intellectual and political legacy that we copied blindly half a century ago, and that lingers anachronistically in our midst today.

I understand and accept that we need some context for the media to work in, whether legal, moral or political. I appreciate that the media sometimes should go along with government desires on very sensitive issues, such as, for example, security-related issues or relations with foreign donors in times of crisis. The government is also mandated to uphold the society's sense of decency and moral decorum, so that, for example, censorship of sexually or morally offensive films and publications is an acceptable task for government.

But this is about as far as I think we can take the matter of government control or guidance of the media.

The broad question that must be addressed is the following:
Are the state-owned television, radio and news agency primarily mouthpieces for the government, or are they the media of the Jordanian people in all their intellectual, social and ideological diversity? The management structure of the state-owned media is badly in need of revision that would separate the operation of the media from the direct control of the government — not because the government is necessarily wrong or bad, but because the policy orientation of the government does not necessarily reflect the full diversity of views of the Jordanian people and society. A wider public debate would result in government policies that are more clear, and that therefore have more public support.

Perhaps it is time to consider the establishment of a neutral

press council or other such body that would have regulating authority over the operations of the state-owned media. We could easily eliminate the ministry of information, give the press council overall authority over the state-owned media, and establish a press office in the Prime Ministry that would undertake those limited functions that are deemed appropriate, such as censoring offensive foreign material or providing guidance to the press on sensitive issues related to security, toreign policy and fiscal matters.

The government is now pondering the question of appointing a new director-general for the Jordan Television and Radio Corporation. The previous director-general, Radi Alkhas. effectively steered the corporation through a delicate period of transition that provided some refreshing examples of illuminating public debate and discussion of important policy issues. He is to be commended for doing a difficult job rather well. His replacement is perhaps the single most important appointment that the Jordanian government will make this year, given the extraordinary power and influence of the television and radio in our country.

This appointment is not only about whether we run comedies, drama series or football games on television. It is about the much more decisive issue of whether we continue to use the state-owned media to propel Jordan into a modern era of enlightened democracy and the pluralistic ideological debate that it comprises, or regress meekly into the more familiar but dangerous world of mass mind control and one-track policy orientation.

I believe the media stands before a historic turning point this year because for the first time in recent memory many people have alternatives to the state-owned television and radio, in the form of international satellite television channels. The proliferation of home satellite dishes allows Jordanians to learn about the world from perspectives other than the government's. This is an important challenge that we have to face up to with a combination of professionalism and honesty that has not been forced upon us before.

If the state-owned media maintains its traditional legacy of primarily offering a government-inspired version of the news events of our region and world, it will soon find itself addressing a smaller and smaller audience, and with less and less credibility. This is not only detrimental to the democratisation process that we value; it would also run counter to the modern legacy of enlightened human development in Jordan based firmly on education, and the promise of honest, constructive debate on public policy sisues that emanate from the consequences of an educated effizienry.

WASHINGTON WATCH

What we learned in Jerusalem

and I went to Jerusalem to address an international conference sponsored by Hebron University, Reverend Jackson was to be the banquet speaker and I was to deliver the luncheon address at the event in commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Entitled "Promoting Peace

LAST WEEK Jesse Jackson

through Understanding", the conference sought to bring together 200 Palestinian leaders from throughout the West Bank and Gaza to both evaluate the history of their struggle and to plan for their future in light of the Sept. 13th signing of the Declaration of Princi-

As a result of actions by the Israeli authorities, however, we were not able to proceed as planned. Instead of focusing on the future, we were forced to deal directly with the brutal present of an apparently unvielding occupation. But even in this there were important lessons to be learned that can provide direction to the continuing movement towards a just and lasting peace.
The goal of the conference

was clear: an academic conference sponsored by a university and supported by the PLO to establish a Palestinian dialogue for peace. Of course, we assumed the Israelis would not only allow, but might even encourage and protect such an event. But when the Israeli right wing attacked the event and accused Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of surrendering Jerusalem to the PLO (because the conference was to take place in Jerusalem), the Israeli government responded by ordering the conference closed only one day prior to its announced opening.
Permits for travel were de-

nied to Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza who planned to attend the conference, making it impossible for them to come to Jerusalem. The management of the hotel that was to be the site of the conference was forced to sign an agreement forbidding the event to take place on its premises under threat of personal arrest and closure of the establishment.

Citing the authority of the British Emergency Regulation of 1945, the Military Governor ordered the hotel "to shut the banquet would be in supdown each and every hall or conference room that serves or port of the peace process and could serve for the purpose of While it was difficult to agree the meeting as well as any

building or courtyard in the area of the hotel where such a gathering could be held." And on the morning of the opening of the conference, Israeli military personnel set up roadblocks on the roads around the hotel, closing it off to all traf-

Although we failed to convince the Israeli courts to overturn the order, we resolved to proceed with the conference despite the threats. We further decided that we would peacefully challenge their attempt to prevent the conference from

At the time the conference was supposed to begin we assembled on the steps of the Ambassador Hotel, which was the site where the PLO had been announced 30 years ago. We were forbidden from using any part of the inside of the hotel or its courtyard, so we met in the only possible place: on the front steps. There, on the steps, we convened the

Then, led by Rev. Jackson, we marched arm in arm for five blocks, through Israeli military roadblocks, to convene the conference at Orient House, which serves as the unofficial Palestinian Guest House in Jerusalem.

Because we asserted our right to convene, because we peacefully marched, and because we had strong international support (including Jesse Jackson, from the U.S., and Ambassador Eric Rouleau of France, representatives of the United Nations and officials of other foreign consulates in East Jerusalem), we succeeded. We marched nonviolently through the streets of Jerusalem, and the Israeli soldiers who were watching us were bewildered, and mable to stop us (even though the Military Governor had declared that any gathering of five or more people was to be

Later that night in discussions with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Rev.

Jackson succeeded in negotiating an agreement which would allow the conference banquet to take place back at the Ambassador Hotel. Mr. Peres simply wanted assurances that the speakers at

ould not be confrontational.



"I grew up on the west bank of America," Rev. Jesse Jackson

to any restrictions on free grasp the victory that would allow the conference organisers to return to the original venue of the conference, at least for its closing banquet. The Israelis remained ob-

stinate in refusing any permits to allow Palestinians from outside Jerusalem to attend to the banquet. Undeterred, the conference organisers worked through the day, mobilising those who could come to actually go to the hotel. By that evening a sizeable number of Palestinian leaders from the city were at the hotel for the

Yet one hour before the banquet was to begin, the Israeli military once again set up their roadblocks around the hotel, and several Shin Bet officers came into the hotel with new orders. They told me that the new orders forbade anyone but Rev. Jackson from speaking at the banquet. Further, the officers stated that they were to be present inside the banquet hall to insure that their orders were followed. I argued that this order

violated our agreement with Mr. Peres. The officers replied that their new order came from Prime Minister Rabin's office, and that they were only following orders. I reminded them that that argument had been used by others in the past with tragic consequences. Their presence at the banquet, I told them, would not secure peace,

it would only produce anger.

I mged them to leave and not return. They did leave, and

munications with the Foreign Ministry, the Shin Bet agents did not return. At the banquet Rev. Jackson delivered a powerful speech. His experiences during the days leading up to the conference led him to conclude that, despite the fact that "we are here at an historic moment with peace accords opening new possibilities... The occupation continues and the daily indignities fear and the pain continue."

after we had further com-

There were, he noted, "several dimensions of this occupation that are rare in the world today. The police surrounding the hotel, arresting guests, the press having to clear stories through the military censor." All of these Rev. Jackson decried as "provocative acts of humiliation."

Rev. Jackson went further, noting that he was keenly aware that more than 10,000 Palestinians were still in jail, land was still being expropriated, more Pelestinians were killed after the Hebron massacre than during the massacre, and the closure of Jerusalem was causing severe unemployment and a health care

He understood Palestinian pain because, as he put it "I grew up on the West Bank of America," where he, too lived with oppression and the denial of basic rights and human

dignity. But despite the fact that some behaved as if no changes had occurred, and remain cynical about whether any real changes can occur, Rev. Jack-son countered with his strong belief that real change was in fact occurring. He said: 🔌

"Thirty years ago, it was said that you were not a people, that you deserved no land, no power to share, no security, no self-determination, no homeland. After 30 years, fundamental shifts have occurred codified in the Declaration of Principles. A shift from a notalk policy to a let-us-talk policy. From disregard to mutual recognition.... The peace and freedom tree has been planted. It must be allowed to sprout and grow. A new vision must emerge... as you shift from the defence of survival of war to the offense of development of hope. For most who have been immersed in the struggle for all of our lives, this is a seachange in preparation — from war preparation to peace preparation. We must learn a new, different, and necessary lesson - to build and expand on the space that exists, to learn to move from mutual recognition to self-determination in actuality, on the ground.

Peace is not a gift. It is a struggle. In many ways it is more difficult struggle than war. It must be built day by day and brick by brick. If it is not nurtured, its possibilities can only be a vision which will ...Surely for all of the pos-

sibility, it is the reality that Israeli troops are leaving Gaza and Jericho as we speak, the reality that Palestinian leaders are returning, that prisoners some but far too few - are being released, that authority is being transferred on the ground. Those are the first fragile buds, the first taste of the fruits of peace. But the taste must become a meal soon, or peace can be starved from lack of sustenance.

"The groundwork has been laid, the agreement has been signed. Let us now lay the cornerstone and begin to build the new building.

..With the new possibility, it is vital to undertake new responsibilities building real institutions on the ground. grasping the opportunity offered by formal recognition to gain new allies abroad and new assistance for develop-

"In this process, a new strategy must be considered for the new possibility. Mass,

aggressive, disciplined non-violent action, to complete the unfinished task... This discipline of creative non-violence has power.... It touches the conscience of the people and the soul of the nation. It changes the rules of warfare... The cynics and saboteurs of peace must not be allowed to

alter the momentum nor divert the course." Following Rev. Jackson's stirring address, the conference organisers from Hebron University and others spoke. I reminded the audience that we had succeeded in convening the conference despite the military and the Shin Bet. We had marched through military roadblocks and defied the authority that sought to silence us. In reality, our recent behaviour had shown that nonviolence could effectively challenge violence and oppression. And despite, or maybe because of, Israeli efforts to block our conference, it succeeded in getting world-wide press attention - probably more coverage than it would have received if the Israeli military had left the event alone.

In many ways, we have all learned that Sept. 13 was not an end point but a beginning. So, too, when an agreement is finally signed to implement the Declaration of Principles it will be merely another beginning in the continuing struggle for full Palestinian rights.

At every stage in the process there will be critics and saboteurs who will object and criticise - and who will lack the vision to build, to challenge and to make changes. What is required is a new strategy, one that energises Palestinians.

In confronting a military force, the most effective weapon is the moral force of disciplined, non-violent political organising. It can be used to effectively challenge the occupation of Jerusalem, the settlements, and to secure Palestinian rights in all their

In a real sense, then, our conference was a success. Wo accomplished most of what we set out to accomplish. The world saw clearly that the occupation and closure of East Jerusalem continues, and we collectively learned what we set out to learn: How to adapt to the new period, and to build peace, real peace, through organising and understanding.

The writer is president of the Washington-based Arab-American Institute.

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King: Our association with Jerusalem stands above the fray of political ploys and earthly greed To the Hashemites, Jerusalem has been an eternal trust

Following is the text of the speech by His Majesty King Hussein at the occasion of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's celebrations of the completion of the third Hashemite restoration of Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock delivered in Amman on Monday, April 18, 1994.

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful, Prayers and Peace be upon His aithful Arab Hashemite Prophet and all his companions

My Dear Brothers and Sisters, Arabs and Muslims every-

Peace, compassion and blessings be upon all of you from Allah, the Lord,

PRAISE be to Allah, the Almighty, who sustains the glory of Islam and who, verily, makes the future belong to those who take heed for themselves and follow the straight path. I bear witness that there is no God but Allah, who has no compeers, and that Mohammad (peace be upon him) is the votary and messenger of Ailah, who took him on a night journey from the Al Haram Mosque to the Al Agsa Mosque from where Allah ascended him to the Lote tree (by the Garden of Tranquility) in the higher heavens.

Also, I praise Allah for all His kindness to me, especially since He blessed me with a special favour to be associated with the first Oiblah and the third sacred mosque. This association goes back to the early days of the first great message when Allah brought the light of Islam to Jerusalem. Ever since then, the Holy City thrived in glory, piety and tolerance. It also goes back to the day when the body of the great Al Hussein Bin Ali, was finally laid to rest in the sacred grounds of Al Aqsa. It was that he who had set an example for historical leaders in seeking a halance between attaining glory of the transient moment and immortality in the life hereafter. It was the very same association that was consolidated when I witnessed Abdullah Bin Al-Hussein as he fell a martyr on the sacred grounds of Al-Aqsa Mosque as he stood upright in dignity, like all Hashemites who pass away while still firmly adhering to time-honoured principles and determined to attain their goals against all odds. Little wonder that they have been

Islam was in point of fact the message of all God's prophets and messengers whose missions had been sealed by that lof Monammad, peace be upon him. Over and above that, my relationship with Jerusalem is similar to that of any Muslim who believes in God, His Angels, Holy Books, His Messengers, and the Day of Judgement. Thus, with the patient tiny minority of the faithful, we have been striving with all the. means at our disposal to defend the cause of our nation, inspired by what the Holy

immortalised in the amais of

Quran says:
"Remember when you were few and powerless in the land, afraid of despoliation at the hands of men. But then God sheltered and helped you to strength, and provided for you good things that you may perhaps be grateful."

Dear Brethren, The accomplishment we celebrate today is one of my dearest achievements, namely the third Hashemite-sponsored renovation of Al Agsa Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock. It was by God's grace that I was able to fulfill my obligations seeking only the reward of the exalted Lord.

As I take special pride in and feel happy about this blessing conferred upon me and all Jordanians by the Lord, I must admit that this joyous occasion is soured by the current state of affairs of this nation and the suffering of its peoples, especially the people of Jerusalem and Palestine. At this moment, my memory takes me back to the morning of Thursday the 28th of Rabee' Al-Awal of the year 1384 After Hijrah, corresponding to the 6th day of August 1964, when we celebrated in the city of Jerusalem the completion of the first phase of the renovation of Al-Agsa Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock. May I recall the very same words I addressed to the nation thirty years ago. The appeal I made on that morning in the distant past was quite timely then as it is now,

for it was intended to alert the entire nation to the dangers of fragmentation. My exact words then were as follows:

'As we celebrate today, we look beyond our immediate scope of vision towards the millions of Arabs and Muslims in Asia and Africa who at this moment collectively set their eyes on Palestine. Let me emphasise that the actual renovation of the Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock assumes significance far beyond the physical repair work on their actual site to include, in addition to the salvation of the Rock, the preservation of its Mosque and the maintenance of its Dome, the complete restoration of our full rights in our usurped land, the dear Arab land (of Palestine)." I added:

This country, my dear brethren, has for years been pursuing development efforts at the same time when we were also defending our homeland and nation. The question of Palestine has all along been part and parcel of our national mission. Palestine has always figured prominently in our national construction and defence efforts because Jordan lives for Palestine and for its sake stands ready to sacrifice

This was our plea then which was inspired by historic posi-tions of Al Hussein Bin Ali on Palestine and its holy shrines, positions which settled deep in our hearts and came forth on our lips. They were later reinforced by Faisal Bin Al Hussein's battle cry, "Let us embrace death, brethren Arabs." It was also impressiveity of Abdullah Bin Al Hussein in safeguarding the holy places and his comprehension of the dynamics of our age. It was indeed his sense of duty which

Thanks to our firm belief in Allah, the Almighty, and by virtue of faith and determination of the righteous people, we have been able to maintain our resolve. Our martyrs' blood rekindles the light that guides us on our way to Jerualem, the dear and precious Jerusalem, the symbol of perseverance and the crown of peace. To us, the Hashemites. Jerusalem has been an eternal trust (of religious tolerance we cherish) under Al Uhdah Al-Umariya (Caliph Umar's Covenant) consecrated by Jordanian blood and a symbol of Arab and Muslim stringele Thus, our association with Jerusalem stands above the fray of political ploys and earthly greed since it has been anchored in the faith, prophethood, history and martyrdom. We shall keep our pledge and we shall defend the nation's rights to Jerusalem. Nor shall we spare any effort to ensue the restoration of its Arab and Islamic character in accordance with international law. It is our duty to ensure that all holy places in Jerusalem will be subject exclusively to divine sovereignty while in the name of God, the Almighty, the whole Muslim Ummah will exercise religious jurisdiction in a manner to be determined by consensus. In this fashion, we can safeguard a sound link between the past and the present and preserve Caliph Umar's Covenant as a beacon that guides us in our rela-tionship with Jerusalem — the symbol, the history and the holy shrines. For what trust could be dearer and more pre-

Children of this noble nation,

Hence, in the name of the martyrs from Ahl-Al-Beit (the House of the Prophet) and all our nation's martyrs, especially of the larger Arab and Muslim homeland, we address this appeal to the entire nation to mobilise its resources and rise to the salvation of Al Quds Al

cious than our holy places

"(W)e say no to any proposed solution that does not restore Arab sovereignty to Arab Jerusalem so that the whole city would eventually become a token and symbol of peace for all the faithful children of Abraham... We say no to any peace formula that does not secure the historical and legitimate rights of the people of Palestine on their sacred national soil...We say not to any peace that the generations to come do not accept, protect and defend."

prompted him to accept the supervision of the renovation work at Al Haram Al Shareef under the patronage of the Amir of the Faithful, Al Hussein Bin Ali, as clearly documented in the letter addressed to him in 1924 by the late Haj Amin Al Husseini, the then Head of the Supreme Islamic Council, may his soul rest in peace. It was Abdullah Bin Al Hussein himself who personally ascended to the roof of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to direct efforts to fight a fire that threatened the structure of the Church in 1949. Later, he offered the funds needed for complete repair of the damage to the Church.

Our position towards all citizens today is no different. It is the same position demonstrated by our soldiers as they put up legendary resistance in defending the walls, alleys and streets of Jerusalem in the face of the June 1967 aggression. They were the same brave servicemen who kept faith as they fought the Karamah Battle as a perpetuation of their struggle for Jerusalem. They were the ones who neither compromised the Arab rights nor did they waver in their determination to defend those rights or face up to the oppression of the usur-

The rights I have in mind are the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine, including the restoration of peace to Al Agsa Mosque and Al Ibrahimi Mosque so that no worshipper there would ever be terrorised by a murderer; so that Salah Eddin's pulpit would never be set ablaze by a bigot; so that children would never be sprayed at point blank with gunfire by a usurper.

oppression and territorial loss. thing less than full freedom, dignity and respectful life. Our order to spearhead the Great Christians, Arabs and non-Great Revolt. They were unforms of colonisation and exforms of disunity and frag-

And today, we say no to any proposed solution that does not restore Arab sovereignty to Arab Jerusalem so that the whole city would eventually become a token and symbol of peace for all the faithful children of Abraham, peace by

do not accept, protect and de-fend. For durable peace should be based on fairness, justice and human dignity.

My Dear Fellow Arabs, Distinguished Guests. Today, we celebrate the

Sharif, and to be able to confront all forms of blockade, This nation is worthy of nograndfathers chose to leave Al-Hijaz earlier in this century in Arab Revolt which advocated liberty, unity and tolerance. In their faithful pursuit of the goals of the Revolt they rallied behind the Muslims and Arabs, under the banner of the ited in their quest for the noble goals of defending human rights and human dignity and in securing the rights of the people to self-determination. Al Hussein Bin Ali opposed all ploitation; and his son, Abdullah Bin Al Hussein opposed all

upon him. In the same breath, we say no to any peace formula that does not secure the historical and legitimate rights of the people of Palestine on their sacred national soil. In other words, we say not to any peace that the generations to come

at the Mosque of the Dome of the Holy Rock and our brethren in Jerusalem are observing the same occasion. We are one and the same family. This event is just another reminder of a long history of common heritage marked by patience, cherished memories and satisfaction. I pray to Allah to enable us to fulfill our obligation to the cause of Islam.

To this end, we have started construction work on the mansoleums of the Prophet's companions, may Allah be pleased with them, since they were the first Muslims to set foot on this land and elsewhere in the Muslim World. More so, because they were either from the House of the Prophet or his

This honour will include the other mujahideen who followed in their steps. These mausoleums should be designed and constructed as architectural masterpieces that display to the generation to come the splendour of their achievements as well as to serve as a source of inspiration to them. For this land was the gate to Islamic conquest through Mu'ta and Yarmouk, and the passage to Muslim cavalier battalions to Hittin and Ein Jalout,

To advance the Islamic agenda, we also initiated work to establish the Ahl Al-Beit University which will be the gift of all members of the House of the Prophet, peace be upon him, to the entire Islamic Ummah. The institution is conceived

to be an Islamic forum that encompasses the glorious past history while it seeks to cope with the challenges of the present and the future. Our ultimate goal is to meet the Lord's wish that this nation will remain "the most favoured among communities raised on this earth." In the same vein we have reached out to our brethren in the newlyindependent Islamic republics. A selected team of our experts are engaged now in providing assistance to those republics in a number of areas, including education, construction and culture. We intended to help in the restoration of the Mausoleum of Al Qatham Bin Al Abbass in Samarkand to its original magnificence, splendour and beauty.

We have also commissioned the restoration of the splendid pulpit of Salah Eddin at its original site in the Al Agsa Mosque. If any thing, this is our concrete response to the malicious bigots who set it ablaze. We have engaged ourselves in this exercise secure in our knowledge that the pulse of history will do justice to this nation. It was Nour Al Deen Zinki, the renowned Muslim martyr, who ordered the artisans of Aleppo to perfect its manufacture. And Salah Eddin himself moved it to Jerusalem 20 years after it had been built. It is my fervent hope now to see it back in place one day and attend a sermon there in which a preacher would congratulate the nation on restoring freedom and dignity to our Jeru-

Dear Brothers and Sisters, The current plight of our nation is a very severe one and the prognosis is grim indeed. I can see no salvation except by ensuring genuine freedoms and making sacrifices, in addition to enlightenment and clear vi-sion. Only then can we comprehend the evolution of history with a fresh outlook which would enable us to instill the younger generation a sense of new hope to attain rejuvenation, revival, scientific knowhow and strength. This path would also help us in shaking ourselves loose from the sins of the current epoch of weakness and inertia which are due chiefly to colonial designs, the oil curse and oppressive practices. Down this road, we would perhaps see an end to our senseless hostilities and to the meaningless loss of our resources and blood which are given away in the service of foreigh interests. And at the end of the tunnel, the whole nation would emerge free of ethnic intolerance, religious extremism and cultural intro-To Jerusalem, the omnipre-

sent city in our minds and hearts, we send our greetings. Without Jerusalem, our lives will always be lacking in har-

For Jerusalem represents our collective memory and common faith. It stands for our their lives. epicenter of knowledge, vision

and religious tolerance (as exemplified in the Covenant of Umar). It is the focal point of our cherished freedom and dig-We will continue to warm against and resist all attempts

at tampering with our Islamic holy shrines, especially at the first Qibia cum the third holy mosque, and generally throughout the Islamic World. We shall oppose any change in the physical features of these shrines that might be effected under false pretexts of repair. expansion or renovation or under any other smokescreen. For such attempts might strip the nation of its historical legacy to safeguard and maintain them. Our opposition to such endeavours will be mounted on behalf of and in coordination with the entire Islamic Ummah

with the view to ensuring the preservation of its sacred common heritage. I must underscore that the appropriate channels for the repair of our holy shrines in Jerusalem are well established, namely, the competent agencies in charge of those holy places, i.e. the Jordanian Ministry of Awqaf and the Commission on the Renovation of Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock. In point of fact, these two institutions have been fulfilling their mandates without any interruption for many de-

Palestine has every right to insist on gaining its liberty and safe life. Vigilance is in order to ensure, God willing, victory. To all our martyrs there, beginning with Izzed-Deen Al Qassam to the most recent worshippers at Al Ibrahimi Mosque, we invoke Allah's mercy and compassion.

We shall always hold them

shall forever remain faithful to the cause for which they gave

To our dear friends who maintain their steadfastness on the land of Palestine, To our fellow brothers in

Iraq who are courageously fac-ing up to the blockade. To the Yemenites who are defending the unity, people and national identity of dear

Muslims everywhere, renew the pledge initially undertaken by our forefathers that they will bow their beads to Allah, the Almighty. They committed themselves to combat injustice and oppression in a manner that behooves their Ja'afar of Mu'ta and al Hussein of Karbula.

of a severe crisis, their reaction has always been: "Overwhelming stress demands overwhelming determination." That is be-

was to see one united nation living in justice and dignity. A nation that draws its strength from its glorious past, despite all obstacles on the road, the severe limitations and the dim prospects. Since our sense of purpose and challenge will

our Lord, the Creator, as mar-

tyrs, for martyrdom would

make up for victory in the life

hereafter if we failed to

If the response of the nation

to the challenge on hand

appeared sometimes to be

weak or limited, or if destruc-

tion, fragmentation, poverty and hunger seemed to be

spreading out of control, then

we should not feel despondent.

Rather, we should respond

with resolve and determination

to rise to the challenge in order

to develop a modern Islamic

discourse and an integrated

model for civilised communal

life which revives hope that the

whole nation could indeed be

reinvented from within in

terms of its thinking, orienta-

tion, vision and way of life

bearing always in mind the

need to safeguard freedoms,

the pursuit of knowledge,

From this platform in Am-

man, which stands for the

Arab cause, freedom and

steadfastness, I say: Peace be

upon Jerusalem and greetings

of peace Jordanians send to

their kinsfolk there. These are

the Jordanians who never

failed to respond to the call of

duty dictated by blood ties and

their sense of morality. These are the Jordanians who never

lost vision of Al Agsa Mosque

with all the sentiments of

worship, martyrdom and pride

Peace be upon Jerusalem of

it evokes in their souls.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

tolerance and justice.

achieve it in our life.

And to all other Arabs and

Let me seize this moment to ssion to no one except lineage to Hamzah of Uhud,

Many a Hashemite martyr uttered in soliloquy: "Oh Lord, I have control over none but myself which I offer in duty to Thy cause." And many of them swore on oath to each other that they would fight till death rather than retreat, surrender or disgrace themselves. No wonder that their tombs are still recognised throughout the larger homeland and their names are held in high esteem by Ummah. Their memories are associated with holy events and places which are subject to no authority other than that of the one United Ummah. Their souls seek no permission for prayer at this mosque or that. After all, they were the ones who in their deeds demonstrated to the world the real difference between freedom and bondage, between justice and oppression, between dignity and submission. In the face

Salah Eddin and of Al Hussein Ben Ali. Peace be upon its Rock, and the first Qibla, the site of the Prophet's night journey and his ascension therefrom to

Peace be upon the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. never wane, we shall remain loyal to their mission until the Let us hope that peace will bring back to Jerusalem its old nation gains victory or we meet

days of joy and glory. These words of peace emanate from Jordan where dignity and pride have become its halfmark, where the pursuit of Islamic and Arab agenda is a passion, and where the safeguard of freedoms is a major

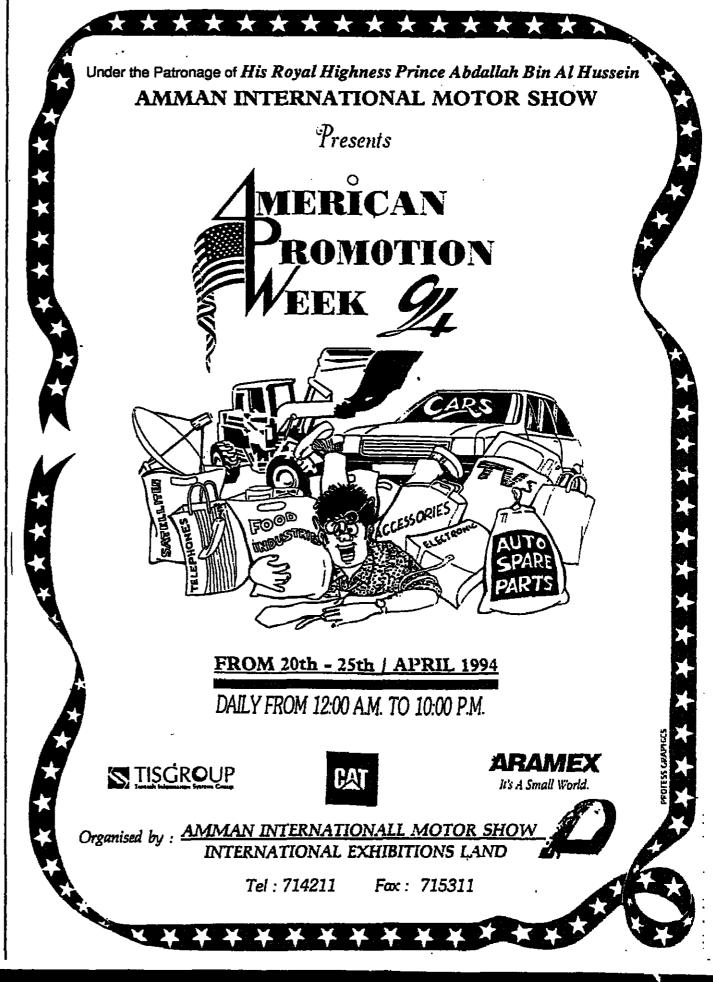
These sentiments of peace are sent by the Jordanians who lost not their hearts in this era of regression, nor did they knuckle under siege or lose focus in the darkest nights.

We send greetings of peace to the jewel of all the cities of the Ummah. We pray for the rest of souls of all martyrs who fell on its soil, of all worshippers who said their prayers in its mosques and churches, of all scholars who went through its schools. We salute all its inhabitants who are enduring the oppression of the occupier while struggling for its freedom and giory

My Dear Brothers and Sisters.

In closing, let me salute all of you and welcome once again our guests who came from several places in the larger homeland of our Ummah. I should also like to pay tribute to all those who contribute to the renovation effort, especially the supervisors, designers, builders and artisans. I pray to Allah, the Almighty, to guide us all along the right path to win His satisfaction. Amen.

May Allah bring upon you one and all peace, compassion and blessings.



EBRD opens meeting, promising private sector aid

ST PETERSBURG (R) — A leaner European Bank for Reconstruction and Development . (EBRD): opened its annual meeting Monday, promising to move closer to the people who need its cash and concentrate help on emerging "Private firms.

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Delegates crowded into St. Petersburg's ornate Tavrichesky Palace for the start of the meeting, which brings together bankers, ministers and industrialists from East and West.

Officials said the bank had put past problems behind it and was ready to concentrate on a new expanded role. "Helping former communist

countries move towards demoeracy and the market economy is one of the greatest chal-lenges of our time," EBRD president Jacques de Larosiere told delegates. What is at stake is nothing less than the reintegration of the countries of the region into Europe and the world economy."
The EBRD was set up to

channel financial help to the countries of eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. It aims particularly to aid the private sector, using its own small projects as catalysts to trigger investment from other

But the bank's performance last year was overshadowed by a bruising row over the cost of setting up the institution and refurbishing its London head-

Flamboyant president Jacques Attali quit as the row rumbled on, to be replaced by Mr. De Larosiere.

The new president said reormisation carried out last year had enabled the institution to save costs and better meet the needs of its members.

The bank now planned to be active in each individual member state, regardless of the fact that some had moved further than others on the road to nance minister and chair-

economic reform.
"Last year... the EBRD was an institution facing three urgent problems — a problem of image and credibility, a probciency and insufficient clarity in the definition of its objectives and missions," he said. Mr. De Larosiere said future activity aimed to improve the effectiveness of EBRD opera-

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A top African National Congress

(ANC) official has said he was

confident that post-apartheid South Africa would prove a

Trevor Manuel, head of the

ANC's Economic Planning

Department, said he expected

the political situation to stabil-

ise after the country's first all-

race elections on April 26-28.

party is widely expected to

dominate the new government

of national unity, also envis-

aged a number of important

signals on economic and other

policy in coming months for

potential investors to digest.

this will provide the signal to

investors and the world that

this is the place to invest," he

in direct investment were,

understandably, biding their

He said many international investors potentially interested

"I'm very confident that all

The ANC official, whose

good investment bet.



Jacques de Larosiere

tions. This could include a more active approach towards equity investment, taking direct stakes in firms and proiects in the countries where it

This idea has the backing of many of the institution's governors — finance ministers and central bank heads.

U.S. Treasury Undersecretary Lawrence Summers agreed the bank should be ready to take more stakes in firms in the region. "Now... it is time to think how the bank can further contribute ... to extend its reach and strengthen

its capacity," he said. When the bank was set up many economists questioned the need for yet another institution channelling funds from rich countries to poorer ones, but ministers at the meeting welcomed the bank's role in assisting lending and

economic reform. "The bank now has every opportunity to become one of the leading financial and lending institutions for eastern Europe," Ukrainian Finance Minister Hrihory Pyatachenko

Anne Wibble, Swedish fiwoman of the EBRD board of governors, said the bank had emerged from last year's crisis in stronger shape and its performance was now back on

"The bank's profitability is not our target per se," Mr. Wibble said, "the real dividends will be a flourishing financial sector in the countries

Political uncertainty was one

reason, but once the elections

were over a clear strategy to

deal with violence should send

an important signal to them, he

"Secondly, they would like to see how South African

corporates respond. On this

score I'm pretty confident that

we will see... a very strong

signal of confidence emanating

from South African corporates

to changes in South Africa,"

Other important signals

which investors would look for

would include the state of na-

tion address in May by the new

president, who is likely to be ANC leader Nelson Mandela,

and the post-apartheid govern-ment's first budget which is expected within months of the

new administration taking

"Those signals..., I think, will see a situation that will

he said.

ANC says new S. Africa good investment bet

Lockerbie sanctions cut AFS '93 profit

MANAMA (R) — Bahrain-based Arab Financial Services Co. E.C. (AFS) said Sunday that U.S. sanctions related to the Lockerbie airline bombing caused its net profit to plunge in 1993, forcing it to scrap its

The firm, owned by 56 Arab banks and financial services, announced its net profit had fallen to \$2 million from \$3.5 million in 1992.

The company's annual assembly approved a board recommendation not to pay a dividend. For 1992 there had been a dividend of \$2.4 mil-

"The company reported that earnings in 1993 were adversely affected by the decision by the U.S. authorities to list AFS as a specially designated national of Libya," AFS said. The U.S. measures are de-

signed to force Libya to surrender two suspects wanted in the 1988 sabotage of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scot-

In declaring AFS to be Li-byan, Washington froze AFS assets in the United States on Dec. 20, causing the company to suspend its travellers cheque, payment card and banknote dealing operations. The company and the

Bahraini authorities argued that Libya had only minority shareholding, though its chair-man was Libyan national Abdullah Sandi, the now departing president and chief executive of Arab Banking Corp. BSC (ABC).
Mr. Saudi announced this

month that he had resigned as AFS chairman, replaced on an acting basis by Saudi Arabia's National Commercial Bank Deputy General Manager Abdul Hadi Shaif.

The company's assembly meeting in Bahrain Saturday, elected Mr. Shaif as chairman, no longer acting, and elected ABC First Vice-President Adnan Yousef as deputy chair-

The statement said AFS profits up to Dec. 21 had been \$2.7 million, but that was reduced to \$2 million by costs related to the write-off travellers cheque stocks and other expenses related to the

turn the minds of foreign inves-tors to this country," he

Mr. Manuel and leading ANC election candidate Jay

Naidoo last week formally

launched the party's official reconstruction and develop-

ment programme, showing no fundamental change from pre-viously announced strategy.

Mr. Naidoo stressed howev-

er, that all major stakeholders in society, including big busi-ness, had been and would con-

tinue to be consulted on policy

formation. Business, he said,

had responded enthusiastically

ment in a very detailed and intensive discussion with every

major stakeholder in society, and that process is producing the type of message of confi-dence, of trust in the ability of

the ANC to govern this coun-

The "people-driven" prog-

" he added.

"We are involved at the mo-

to the ANC's approach.

pointed out

Ciller says U.S. supports Turkey's economic plan

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller said Monday the United States and international financial institutions backed her economic austerity programme.

"I can clearly say the U.S. administration has given full support to the measures," Ms. Ciller told reporters at the airport on her return from a four-day visit to the United

Ms. Ciller's long-awaited economic package, announced on April 5, calls for one-off taxes, quick privatisations, the closure of some loss-making state firms, selling public, property and tightening control on state expenditure.

Ms. Ciller said the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Western banks also backed the mea-

The Turkish treasury can no longer borrow from domestic markets. Its ability to raise money on the international markets has been weakened following cuts in its credit rat-ing by Moody's and Standard and Poor's.



Government officials said Turkey had agreed to ask the IMF for a stand-by deal which would enable it to win financial support from the IMF and remove obstacles to other foreign borrowing.

IMF managing Director

Michel Camdessus said last week Turkey and the fund would start immediate talks on a stand-by accord. He de-

scribed Ms. Ciller's programme as "courageous and deserving of IMF support."

A stand-by agreement with the IMF is likely to facilitate Turkey's access to international debt markets.

Officials said Turkey should find some \$3.0 billion for the rest of 1994 to meet its debt service payments on time.

They said the IMF was likely to urge Turkey to abolish farm subsidies, privatise its statedominant economy, lower real wage levels and avoid keeping its currency over-valued under a medium-term stabilisation

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Develop-ment (OECD) said Turkey should narrow its public deficits to cut inflation — the main target of Ms. Ciller's programme, which some bankers have criticised as being too loosely-defined.

Economists expect private sector manufacturing industry prices, a leading indicator of core inflation, to rise by more than 30 per cent this month.

IMF official seeks rate cuts in Japan, Germany

WASHINGTON (R) — Germany and Japan could cut interest rates further and the United States raise them as part of a global strategy to promote long-lasting world economic growth, a senior IMF official said.

Briefing reporters ahead of the International Monetary Fund's semi-annual meeting next week, the official also called on the United States to narrow its budget deficit and Japan to extend its tax cuts so as to aid their economies and the rest of the world.

He said that global growth looks set to pick up to around three per cent this year and 31/2 to four per cent next year.

But he added that some industrial nations, including Japan, Germany, France, and Italy, will see their economies lag in 1994, and that unemployment, particularly in Europe remains a major wor-

"The (Japanese) economy is now bottoming out and could recover, but slowly during the next few months," the official, who declined to be named,

To help ensure that growth

returns to more acceptable levels next year, Japan should prolong this year's scheduled tax cuts until the economy is well into a recovery, he said. formidable financial reserves The tax cuts, which form the core of a \$145 billion budget stimulus package unveiled by Japan earlier this year, are currently only slated to last one

> A further cut in Japanese interest rates could also help boost the economy, even though rates there are already In making the case for lower

> Japanese rates, the official argued that Japan's economy is weak without any inflation and the Japanese authorities consider the yen overvalued. Lower rates would tend to

weaken the yen by making it a less profitable currency to

The IMF official also advocated lower interest rates in Germany and said that's what he expects the Bundesbank to deliver. The German central bank just last week cut leading interest rates by a quarter percentage point — a move the IMF official welcomed. 0r

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"I see the German economy still at a very low level of activity," the official said.

"I have no doubt the German authorities will prudently but steadfastly continue their efforts to make monetary conditions more in line with the needs of the German economy and of their neighbouring countries," he added.

While the German and Japanese economies are languishing, that of the United States is moving ahead apace and is quickly approaching full capacity. To help ensure that the economy does not overheat, the IMF official advocated a mixture of budget deficit cuts and short-term initerest, rate increases in the United States.

The Federal Reserve (Fed) has already raised short-term rates twice this year in a bid to head off future inflation and prolong the economic upturn. The senior IMF official welcomed the central bank's actions and said he expects further rate increases in the future.

"I expect them to continue tightening the monetary stance, not to diminish in any way the growth of the economy, but to make it sustainable," he said.

Some analysts have criticised the Fed for moving too slowly to tighten monetary policy to hold price rises in check and have argued that's why inflation-wary investors have pushed up long-term rates.

But the IMF official rejected that view, and instead blamed the increase in long-term rates on worries about America's budget deficit.

He said the United States should take advantage of its buoyant economy to cut its deficit still further, arguing that would help stabilise longterm rates.

MEES: Saudi banks cut defence loan to \$1.3 billion year after having eaten into the

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Saudi Arabian banks have slashed \$500 million from a \$1.865 billion commercial loan sought by the cash-strapped government to finance deferred payments to U.S. defence companies, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Monday.

The April 13 loan, to finance the first of the deferred payments, was cut back to \$1.3 billion "due to lack of interest from banks," the oil industry newsletter said.

This is the first time that Saudi banks have refused a request for a loan of this size by the government, which has been borrowing heavily from them in recent years.

The oil-rich kingdom is grap-

pling with unprecedented financial problems after years of breakneck spending and balance of payments deficits and is finding it difficult to horrow from major international banks which are concerned about Riyadh's debt strategy.

"The need to reduce the amount borrowed is the first concrete sign that Saudi banks'

ability to provide the government with huge amounts of cash at short notice is finite," MEES reported.

"The banks' reluctance to the loan stemmed partly from the amount of Sandi government debt which they already have on their books and from the knowledge that several more loans are in the pipeline," MEES noted. Saudi Arabia and its five

major U.S. arms suppliers -McDonnell Douglas, General Dynamics Corp., Raytheon Co., FMC Corp. and the Hughes Aircraft division of General Motors — agreed Jan. 29 to restructure \$9.2 billion in payments due over the next

Under that accord, Riyadh will pay the U.S. companies \$1.5 billion directly in cash in 1994 and 1995, with the balance of \$6.2 billion covered by

The \$9.2 billion covers part of the \$30 billion in weapons systems purchased from the U.S. companies since 1989, a development spurred by the 1991 Gulf war.

The restructuring agreement primarily affects a \$9 billion deal by Saudi Arabia for 72 McDonnell Douglas F-15E fighter jets. Instead of taking delivery of two a month beginning next year, they will get

one a month. Other deals include the purchase of 315 M1A2 Abrams tanks from General Dynamics and a \$800 million computerised air defence network from Hughes Aircraft.

Saudi Arabia, the world's major oil exporter which sits atop reserves estimated at 255 billion barrels, had had to bite the financial bullet because of a 30 per cent drop in oil prices and the \$55 to \$60 billion cost of the Gulf war.

It has also had to finally tackle the lingering problems of chronic current account shortfalls and budget deficits. The government cut expend-

iture by 20 per cent earlier this

accumulated during the oil boom years. In 1982, these were \$171 billion. They now total around

\$30 billion. The Saudis initially planned ot approach international banks, including Chase Manhattans, Citibank and J.P. Morgan. But it "became clear

that the money could not be

raised from international banks in time," MEES said.

Bankers had expected the Saudis would have a tough time with the international banks. U.S. banks were focussing on financing a \$6 billion deal by Saudia, Saudi Arabia's national airline, to modernise its fleet with American air-

Japanese banks do not lend for defence contracts and Europe's prefer backing European contracts.

The weekly newsletter said Riyadh had to turn to Saudi banks, which "require fewer approval and documentation procedures" to lend to the government.

The National Commercial, Riyadh and Saudi American banks are underwriting the seven-year loan, each for 300 million Saudi riyals (\$78 million), MEES said.

It noted that the amounts taken by other banks were not confirmed. But it said the Saudi British Bank took 100 million riyals (\$26 million) and the Sandi French, Saudi Dutch and Saudi Cairo each took 50 million riyals (\$13 million).

The Gulf International Bank was understood to have taken more than 100 million riyals (\$26 million), it said. The remainder of the loan

will come from Saudi and Gulf banks, as yet not identified. Some Saudi banks did not participate, apparently because the government was expected to seek further large

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arriold and Miles Argirion Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form SVORI RYVEST WHAT THE ROMANTIC SNAKE OFFERED THE THOTEG gested by the above cartoon. Answer: And And Jumbles: BRAWL LARVA DECODE VENDOR Answer: When the elevator got stuck, it was this --A "DOWNER"

Peanuts

told reporters.



Mutt'n'Jeff



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ramme places priority on redressing major backlogs spawned by apartheid in areas such as health, housing and education.

It proposes a public works scheme to create 2.5 million jobs over 10 years, and in the next five years build one million homes, provide power for 2.5 million and redistribute 30

per cent of farm land.
Mr. Manuel put the cost at
39 billion rand (\$10.83 billion) over next five years, but said the bulk could be funded from existing resources.

For instance, only one education department was needed, rather than the current 14, and the defence force secret budget account of 3.83 billion rand (\$1.06 billion), which fell outside normal defence spending and was under-stood to fund weapons development, procurement and covert operations, could be re-

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY APRIL 19, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation-

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The Leo Moon trines Mars in the a.m. puts a lot of emotional energy into the arena and pro-vides opportunities to advance materially if you take care to avoid those hypocritical trouble

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Come to the right decisions about the future and then start the wheels rolling in the right direc-tion. Evening is fine for medita-

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Analyse your position quietly and then take steps to improve it. Try to be less critical of others and sidestep a troublemaker.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You can accomplish a great deal today if you apply yourself. Get-ting together in the evening with congenials is the fine and you will have a grand time. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) Take care of regular routines early in the day so you will have time for social affairs later. Be logical in any endeavour you do. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Obtain the data you need to put a new plan across. Be more active and accomplish more.

Don't neglect civic duties you have decided to do. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Be sure not to invest

more money than you can afford in a new project or you could regret later. Strive for happiness in your personal life. LIBRA: (September 23 to Octo-

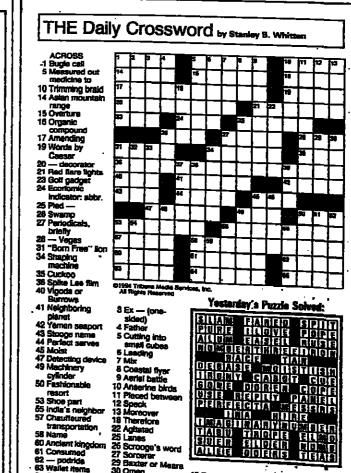
ber 22) Follow your intuitive promptings now and get excel-lent results. Show others that you are a very hospitable person towards all you meet. SCORPIO: (October 23 to

November 21) Confer with associates and listen to their ideas so that there will be more mutual cooperation. Relax at home tonight with your family. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Daytime hours are best for going after your most cherished goals. Don't let an outsider take advantage of you where money is involved. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) Delve into new interests that could give you more income in the future. Avoid unnecessary expenditures of money so there will be some later. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to

February 19) Carry through with original plans instead of putting off duties for another day. Try to please your mate more and you both will be happy.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Come to the aid of a friend who needs your help now. A wiser arriting toward a loved one brings excellent results for you at



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Ситенсу	New York Close Der 15/4/94	Tokyo C2032 Pate 18/4/94
Sterling Pound	1.4720	1.4710
Deutsche Mark	1.7145	1.7134
Swiss Franc	1.4550	1_4545
French Franc	5.8615	5.8572**
Japanese Yen	103.45	103.28
European Curreny Unit	1.1285	1.1300=

Eurocurrency Interest R		Date: 18/4/1994			
Сигтерсу	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS	
U.S. Dollar	3.5000	3.7500	4.1900	4.8100	
Sterling Pound	4.8800	4.9400	5.0600	5.3100	
Deutsche Mark	5.4400	5.3800	5.2500	5.1300	
Swiss Franc	3.7500	3.7500	3.6900	3.6900	
French Franc	5.8100	5.7500	5.7500	5.6300	
Japanese Yeo	2.0600	2.0600	2.1300	2.3800	
European Currency Unit	6.0600	6.0000	5.9300	5.8700	

letais			Date: 18,	4/1994
USD/Oz	JD/Gm°	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
377.90	7.50	Silver	5.24	0.130
	USD/Oz	USD/Oz JD/Gm°	USD/Oz JD/Gm° Metal	USD/Oz JD/Gm° Metal USD/Oz

Interitant, hid rate for amounts exceeding (1.5. Define).000.000 or o

	Date: 18:4/1994			
Сигтелсу	Bid	Offer		
U.S. Dollar	0.7040	0.7060		
Sterling Pound	1.0345	1.0397		
Deutsche Mark	0.4107	0.4128		
Swiss Franc	0.4538	0.4862		
French Franc	0.1201	0.1207		
Japanese Yen	0.5813	0.6847		
Dutch Guilder	0.3660	0.3678		
Swedish Krona	140400	*****		
Itelian Lira	0.0432	0.0434		
Belgian Franc	*****	*****		

Other Currencies	Date	: 18/4/1994
Сигтелсу	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8570	1.8640
Lebanese Lira*	0.040575	0.041775
Saudi Riyal	0.1874	0,1886
Kuwaiti Dicar	2.3200	2.3550
Qatari Riyal	0.1911	0.1920
Egyptian Pound	0.1900	0.2100
Omani Riyal	1.3090	7.8250
UAE Dirham	0_1911	0.1920
Greek Drachma	0.2565	0.3067
Cyprict Pound	1.2670	1.3750

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs

1,7108/18 1.9202/12 1.4536/46 35.21/25 5.8530/80 1630.8/2_3 103.64/74 7.8925/25 7.4180/30

Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns

6.7050/00 \$1.4708/18 One sterling \$376.90/377.40 One ounce of gold

Syria to build new sugar plant next year

DAMASCUS (R) - The Syrian government has approved plans to build a new sugar factory that would increase local production capacity by about 50 per cent a year, a senior government official said Mon-

day. Walid Dalati, directorgeneral of the state-owned General Syrian Sugar Com-pany, told Reuters the new plant, to be built in the central city of Homs, some 200 kilometres north of Damascus, will have a capacity to produce 129,000 tonnes of white sugar a

Syria's current annual production capacity is about 260,000 tonnes.

Mr. Dalati said feasibility studies for the new plant have been completed and construction would begin early next year after the issue of an international tender. The cost and

period of construction will be decided later, he added.

He said the new factory. planned to meet a sharp increase in local beet production, would process 6,000 tonnes of beet to produce 600 tonnes of whites per day, equal to some 72,000 tonnes of white sugar during the four-month beet

The new plant would also refine 600 tonnes of raw sugar per day to produce 57,000 tonnes of white sugar during the 100-day work circle which follows the beet processing

Industry sources say local beet production which has risen sharply during the last few years was expected to exceed two million tonnes in 1995 from 1.2 million tonnes last year and only 400,000 ten years

New Kuwaiti cabinet to press on with reform

KUWATT (R) — Knwait's new government said Sunday it would press ahead with privatisation and encourage foreign investment and had formed a special committee to carry out economic reform.

The committee will be in charge of laying out special policies concerning the economic reform process," a cabinet statement, carried by the official Kuwait News Agency, said. Crown Prince and Prime Minister Saad Al Abdulla Al Sabah formed a new cabinet on April 13 saying he wanted to introduce a new era of reform. He has said he wants to cut the

emirate's large budget deficit by reducing state spending. Opposition MPs have said they will oppose any substantial cuts in welfare state benefits enjoyed by the 640,000 Kuwaiti citizens and by the expatriates who slightly outnumber them.

Bank of Jordan boosts net profit by 5%

AMMAN (R) — Bank of Jordan said Monday it was restoring its dividend after a 4.8 per cent rise in net profits to 3.26 million dinars (\$4.63 million) last year from 3.11 million dinars (\$4.40 million in 1992.

The board of directors proposed distributing 630,000 dinars (\$894,000) of profits to shareholders, the first dividend

Total assets rose 11.4 per cent to 284.330 million dinars (\$403.87 million) in 1993 from 255,239 million dinars (\$362,55 million) in 1992.

"We expect our financial results to improve further in 1994 especially after the resumption of our bank business in the Israeli-occupied territories, said Mohammad Ali Ibrahim, assistant general manager of the Bank of Jordan.

Operating income rose to

9.3 million dinars (\$13.2 million) from 8.3 million dinars (\$11.7 million). Loans reached 138.828 million dinars (\$197.19 million) from 123,729 million dinars (\$125.75 million).

Bank of Jordan's new branch in the West Bank town of Ramallah is the first Jordanian bank to reopen in the Israeli occupied territories since a banking agreement between Jordan and Israel was concluded last December.

It plans to extend West Bank operations in 1994 with a second branch in Nablus, to be followed by branches in Hebron and Gaza, where the bank has leased new premises. A Jericho branch, where the bank has bought land, will serve Palestinian self-rule

The bank raised its capital to

lion) from 5.25 million dinars (\$7.4 million) in a rights issue of 5.25 million shares.

Shareholders equity rose to 21.7 million dinars (\$30.8 million) in 1993 from 14.1 million

(\$20 million) in 1992. Deposits rose to 225,600 million dinars (\$320.4 million) in 1993 from 209.112 million dinars (\$296.8 million).

Total balance sheet rose to 330 million dinars (\$468 million) at the end of 1993 from 312 million dinars (\$443 mil-

Algeria applies to Paris Club to reschedule debt

TUNIS (R) - Algeria has officially applied to the Paris Club of creditors to reschedule its medium- and long-term foreign debt, the Algerian cen-

tral bank said Sunday. The rescheduling will reduce debt servicing by nearly \$4.0 billion for 1994 and by \$5.0 billion over the period of a standby accord with the International Monetary Fund (April 1994-March 1995), the bank said in a statement received in

Tunis. "The rescheduling will cover bilateral debts, which constitute 60 per cent of total medium and long-term debts, it added.

Algerian experts estimate the North African country's medium and long-term debt at between \$11 and \$13 billion. Its total foreign debt is believed to be around \$26 billion.

The bank statement said Algeria had also suspended bilateral and bank debt repayments after applying to the Paris Club.

Algeria would also seek to renegotiate its medium-term commercial debts. It will ask international organisations like the World Bank for additional funds to enable the country to increase its imports, it added.

Algeria's factories have been running at 50 per cent capacity because of a shortage of hard currency to buy raw materials. More than 20 per cent of the workforce is unemployed.

"... Payments of bilateral and bank debts eligible for rescheduling have been sus-pended," the statement said. It said short-term debt services payments would, howev-

er, be made "punctually."
"Algeria will start negotiations shortly with international banks with a view to restructuring medium-term bank loans," the statement added. It gave no figures.

A member of the Organisa-

Security, Hospitality

& Gastronomy

tion of Petroleum Exporting Countriesl (OPEC), Algeria relies on crude oil and gas exports for more than 90 per cent of its foreign currency

Algerian central bank governor Abdul Wahab Karamane said last week that persistently low oil prices had forced the country to resort to rescheduling. He said Algeria did not intend to reschedule shortterm debts.

France, Japan and Italy are Algeria's main creditors. The Algerian government,

buffered by falling revenue and a campaign by Islamic militants to overthrow the army-backed authorities, devalued the dinar earlier this month to pave the way for a \$1.0 billion IMF standby loan.

Officials blame poverty, unemployment and poor housing among many of the 26 million people for fueling recruitment to the ranks of the Islamic

militants. Algerian President Liamine Zeroual backed the prime minister after the devaluation and appointed a moderate known to back economic reform and dialogue with the Islamists.

Newly appointed Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi, considered a technocrat, has named a new cabinet that kept President Liamine Zeroual as defence minister but had an eve toward reform

The lineup includes a newly created ministry of industrial restructuring, headed by former Economics Minister Mourad Benhachenhou, who was succeeded by Mohammad

Banamar Zerhouni. The government is under pressure to bring market reform to an economy still dominated by often inefficient state-owned industries, a legacy of socialist rule.

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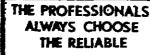
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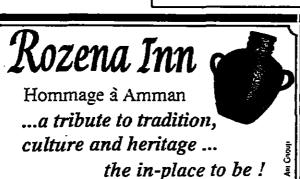
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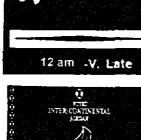
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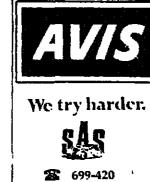




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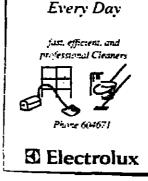






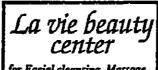


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U.N. commander warns of Gorazde catastrophe; Serbs renew shelling

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnian Serb forces battered Gorazde with shellfire Monday and U.N. commander General Michael Rose said the Muslim town was teetering on the brink of a major humanitarian catastrophe.

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"Shells are now dropping at random on the town centre," said U.N. official Kris Janowski. "The hospital took a direct hit on the roof and the refugee centre has been shelled as

"There has been one shell impact every 20 seconds this morning," Mr. Janowski, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugee (UNHCR) in Sarajevo, told

More than 30,000 terrified refugees are sheltering in Gorazde, swelling the population to 65,000 people.

Thousands of mostly Muslim refugees from villages near the town, 70 kilometres southeast of Sarajevo, have flooded in during a 19-day Serb onslaught on the enclave, a U.N.-designated safe area.

Mr. Janowski said 37 people were killed in Serb shelling Sunday, bringing the death toll to 302, including 41 children. In 19 days, a total of 1,072 have been wounded.

The Serbs launched the fresh attack less than a day after Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic told the U.N.'s spe-cial envoy Yasushi Akashi and Russia's peace emissary Vitaly Churkin that his side was prepared to sign a ceasefire for Gorazde.

General Rose, the U.N. force commander in Bosnia, accused the Serbs of exploiting

Aristide

on Haiti

BERKELEY, Calif. (R) — Exiled Haitian President Jean-

Bertrand Aristide strongly

criticised U.S. policy on Haiti

Sunday and urged Washington

to increase sanctions against

Haiti's military rulers. Mr.

Aristide told a news confer-

California, that he was unhap-

py with President Bill Clinton's

policy on Haiti, which he de-

scribed as "a racist policy' and

"a clear violation of human

He condemned the U.S.

policy of forcibly repatriating

Haitian refugees trying to flee

the island, where, according to

news reports, a new wave of

political terror has been laun-

ched against supporters of Mr.

Aristide in a coup in Septem-

ber 1991, seven months after

he took office as Haiti's first

democratically-elected presi-

dent. Attempts to negotiate his

return to power have failed.

want the United States to send

troops to Haiti, but he said he would like Washington to do

"half of what they said they

would be doing' to restore him

He said the United States

had said it would increase sanc-

tions against Haiti if the milit-

ary did not step down by Jan.

15. "That would be good to do

that, to see them doing that,'

he said.
"We cannot any more accept

genocide at 90 minutes by plane from Florida," Mr. Aris-

He said the United States

could do something about the situation in Haiti if it wanted

to.
"It's a question of 'do we

really mean what we say when

we say democracy?' The Hai-

tian people are dying for

democracy. Are we ready to

help them? So we wish they

will express their political will

Later in a speech to several

hundred people at a Berkeley

church. Mr. Aristide urged sup-

porters to mount an interna-

tional effort to increase sanc-

tions against the Haitian

U.S. government could wel-

come Cuban refugees and yet

"In Haiti, we have a house

send back Haitian refugees.

on fire...when some of them

escape, the American Coast

Guard takes them and sends

them back to this house on

fire. It's a crime...It's a racist

congressman has raised the

idea of an American military

invasion of Haiti, but only af-

ter first tightening sanctions against the troubled Caribbean

Meanwhile, a second U.S.

policy," he said.

Mr. Aristide asked how the

through actions," he said.

Mr. Aristide said he did not

The military ousted Mr.

rights."

Aristide.

to office.

tide said.

military.

assails

the U.N. to further their war aims by ignoring their own ceasefire assurances.

"The town is at their mercy and we are on the edge of a major humanitarian catastrophe," he said.

Seven U.N. soldiers were evacuated by helicopter from Gorazde Monday, leaving only five U.N. military observers in the town bunkered down against the renewed Serb attack.

"All seven forward air controilers were evacuated at 0430 local (0230 GMT) by helicopter from Gorazde," Gen. Rose told a news briefing in Sarajevo.

The men were believed to have been involved in directing NATO air strikes against Bosnian Serb positions near Gorazde last week.

"Their departure would make further air support much less likely," U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokes-man Major Rob Annink told the briefing.

The evacuation was likely to intensify criticism that the U.N. was abandoning mainly Muslim citizens and refugees to their fate. U.S. President Bill Clinton said Sunday fresh air strikes to help defend

Gorazde were unlikely. But Gen. Rose said U.N. peacekeeping forces were not in Bosnia to fight wars and could do little with the restricted mandate and few lightly-armed soldiers it had.

"We are here to keep peace. We do not fight war from white-painted (U.N.) vehicles... we have limited means and resources," Gen. Rose The U.N.'s virtual admission of defeat in safeguarding Gorazde and growing humilia-tion at the hands of Bosnian Serb forces came after days of entreaties to Serb leaders not to overrun the enclave.

Selective NATO air strikes called in last week by the United Nations to protect U.N. personnel in Gorazde failed to halt the Serb onslaught.

Gen. Rose was clearly outraged by the conduct of the Bosnian Serb leadership who had assured Mr. Akashi and Mr. Churkin that it was prepared to sign an agreement for Gorazde and pull back its troops three kilometres from

The Japanese diplomat apparently later failed in talks with Bosnia's Muslim-led government in Sarajevo to per-suade them to back a truce, saying that Gorazde remained under serious threat.

Meanwhile, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said Monday the European Union will look to strengthen, not abandon, its peace efforts in Bosnia after the latest Bosnian Serb assaults on Gorazde.

Speaking to reporters on arrival for a meeting of EU foreign ministers, Mr. Hurd said: "I do not think that the Europeans will decide to abandon Bosnia or the effort in Bosnia so long as the benefits to the people in Bosnia out-

Mr. Hurd said there was now a "serious and dangerous situation in Gorazde but this was not an argument for abandoning the whole effort so long as it did good.

Mr. Hurd said the United



Alan Boesak (2nd right) greet the crowd as they enter an election raily in Cape Town (AFP)

Buthelezi, De Klerk hold crisis talks

PRETORIA (R) — President F.W. De Klerk held crisis talks with Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi Monday in what political sources said was a last-ditch bid to end his boycott of South Africa's historic allrace elections.

Political sources said the. talks. Confirmed by a government spokesman, were intended to give Inkatha Freedom Party leader Buthelezi a final chance to play a part in the April 26-28 election process to end 350 years of white

domination. "We really are down to the wire," said one political source. "The president decided he wanted to give it one final push."

The sources said Mr. De Klerk had spent much of the weekend formulating propos-

Mr. Buthelezi, who is de-manding virtual self-rule in the Zulu heartland of Kwazulu-Natal, would be told "very firmly" that this was his last chance to board the election train, the sources added.

Mr. Buthelezi told reporters Sunday he still hoped Inkatha could take part. "We still hope a way might be made for us to participate in the elections. even at this late stage," he

A Natal Security Committee spokeswoman reported 20 people killed over the weekend, bringing to at least 238 the death toll since De Klerk imposed a state of emergency on the Kwazulu homeland and surrounding Natal to quell pre-

election violence. More than 15,000 people have died in political violence in four years of apartheid reform. Mostly in fighting between supporters of the African National Congress which is widely tipped to win the elections comfortably and Inkatha.

Mr. Buthelezi said Saturday a meeting of South Africa's main political players could "quite possibly" take place. His comments followed the collapse last week of an international mediation mission designed to end election vio-

A summit including Mr. De Klerk, Mr. Buthelezi, ANC leader Nelson Mandela and Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini on March 19 failed to make any progress towards a political settlement.

In the black Johannesburg township of Tokoza, shooting erupted Monday around a migrant workers' hostel housing supporters of Inkatha.

Witnesses said the shooting began after ANC supporters tried to put up an election banner. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Witnesses said members of the National Peacekeeping Force, which replaced army troops in Tokoza Wednesday, arrested three youths armed with AK-47 assault rifles. Their identity was not immediately known, but the location and the reaction of a nearby crowd suggested they

were ANC members. Peacekeepers, who sealed off the hostel, had been on alert in case of trouble following an Inkatha decision to postpone a central Johannesburg march.

The march, planned for Monday, was banned by police to prevent bloodshed. A Zulu march in Johannesburg on March 28 sparked clashes in which 53 people were killed.

Tokoza residents said there had also been shooting in the area Sunday afternoon when two people were wounded.

In Johannesburg, police raided the regional office of the ANC in the country's commercial capital and freed four apparent inkatha supporters, including a boy of 14, from basement cells. Police spokesman Dave

Bruce said there was evidence the four, who described themselves as Inkatha supporters, had been badly beaten and said charges of assault and kidnapping could be brought.
There was no immediate

comment from the ANC. On Sunday a stampede at a South African election rally crushed three people to death and seriously injured 21.

A six-year-old boy was among the dead in panic scenes at an election rally addressed by Mr. Mandela, strongly tipped to become South Africa's first black president.

The incident was the worst of its kind in the official campaign for South Africa's April 26-28 all-race elections.

King Goodwill plans to call mass meetings of all Zulus coinciding with a boycott of the elections on April 26-28, sources close to the king said

"The imbizo (mass meeting) will be held at the royal kraal in Nongoma from April 26-28," one source told Reuters.

The king has already said he could not advise the country's 8.4 million Zulus to participate in the elections.

"The king will officially tell his subjects to defy any orders from the new government and defend themselves." the source told Reuters.

tors to make thorough checks.

Tree catches man

ANAHEIM, California (R) -A man fell out of a cable car at Disneyland and plunged 20 feet (six metres) into a tree above the "Alice In Wonderland" attraction, escaping with minor injuries. The 30-yeartree by rescuers and taken to a hospital, where he was in good condition, officials said. The tree prevented the man falling the full 50 feet (15 metres) to the ground from the Skyway Gondola. A Disneyland spokesman said investigators were at a loss as to how the small gondola's door opened while in the air. The unidenti-

Constipated drug suspect frustrates

WELLINGTON (R) - New Zealand police are detaining a man they suspect of swallowing drug-filled condoms, but after 18 days he has yet to produce the evidence. Radio New Zealand said police, who are waiting for the man to excrete the suspected drugs, were apply for an extension to an arrest warrant which expires Friday. It said the man was believed to have eaten only four bowls of soup and a hamburger since his detention on April 1. The man has refused any medical ex-amination but is being regularly supervised by a doctor. Police will not identify the suspected drug or elaborate on

Japan ruling coalition nears accord on policy U.S. policy

TOKYO (R) — Japan's ruling coalition, after days of agonised talks that pushed it to the brink of collapse, neared agreement Monday on a policy platform that would clear the platform that would clear the hurdle to choosing a new national leader.

Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's sudden resignation 10 days ago amid a personital loans scandal triggered turmoil in both the ruling and opposition camps and paralysed government) and parhamentary business.

By Monday, the unwieldy coalition of conservatives, centrists and Socialists had yet to appoint a successor although Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata remained the favourite.

"Only God knows when we're going to decide on a successor," laughed Kozo Watanabe, a senior member of Mr. Hata's Shinseito (Renewal

"Seriously, though, I think we'll be able to call a vote in parliament Wednesday (to choose a prime minister) as we finish drafting a coalition pact on policy."

Seven coalition partners one party dropped out of the negotiations Friday -- were due to resume last-round negotiations Tuesday.

Mr. Watanabe said the coali-

tion members were determined to iron out differences on whether to introduce a new indirect tax to fund proposed income tax cuts and whether to back possible U.N. sanctions against North Korea over its suspect nuclear arms programme, two issues that will require government action in the next few months.

Since its birth eight months ago, the coalition has argued bitterly and almost parted ways several times.

Japan's rice market to help wind up the Uruguay round of trade talks tested its unity. In February, it was unable to agree on the tax question or on how to meet U.S. demands for

market-opening measures.

The Socialist Party, the largest in the alliance, has emerged as the main source of trouble and is even now resisting the idea of isolating North Korea or introducing a new tax. Japan, however, is com-mitted to increasing indirect taxes to reduce the burden of

direct taxes on salary earners. In a related development Monday, an opposition leader appeared ready to abandon his plan to bolt Japan's oncedominant Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and launch a new political group to join the current coalition, such a move could have displaced Mr. Hata as a possible leadership candi-

Michio Watanabe, a former foreign and finance minister. had hoped to strike a deal with the coalition, offering to bring over a large group of LDP defectors in exchange for endorsement as its candidate for premier in the vote in parlia-

By Monday, however, media polls showed only around 20 of the almost 50 lawmakers in Watanabe's LDP faction were willing to join their boss in defecting from the conservative party that ruled for 38 years until its election

defeat last July. Six of Mr. Watanabe's supporters decided to make the move on their own and appealed to others to join

"We're doing this on our own initiative... We hope,

U.S. seizes ship smuggling Chinese

Nations might face difficult de-

cisions later unless things improved. Adding: "We are not at that point yet. But we are

certainly not going to get in-volved in a war on behalf of

He said the EU ministers,

after hearing a report from mediator Lord Owen, would

seek "to work out ways to

strengthen the effort rather

France said Monday it was

Foreign Minister Alain Jup-

against any "surrender or

pe told a news conference the

priority was to "set the peace

would say neither a surrender

nor an escalation. There may

be a strong temptation to give

up, but we do not share this,"

where with an escalation,

either in lifting the embargo on

arms sales or in launching mas-

vival of peace negotiations under the joint sponsorship of

outside powers, saying they must speak with a united voice.

creation over the next few days, and it could take place

tomorrow, of a negotiating group with representatives of the United States, Russia, the

European Union and the Un-

ited Nations," he said.
"As long as this common

stance has not been defined,

people will continue to play on

supposed divisions between

the great powers and this will

help the duplicity we have seen

once again," he said.

"We are pushing for the

Mr. Juppe pressed for a re-

sive air attacks.'

"Nor would we get any-

What should we do now? I

process back on the rails".

one side or the other."

than to abandon it."

escalation'

SAN DIEGO (R) — The U.S. Coast Guard Sunday boarded and seized, a fishing trawler off Mexico's Pacific coast that was apparently attempting to smuggle more than 100 Chinese immigrants into the United States, officials said.

Authorities said the Taiwanese-registered ship, the 168-foot (51-metre) Jin Yinn No. 1, was heading for port under Coast Guard escort, but they declined to say whether it was being taken to the United States or Mexico.

Coast Guard spokeswoman.

The 111 passengers and 10 crew members, all believed to be from mainland China, appeared in good health and were to be interviewed at sea. by officials of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service, officials said.

After shadowing the vessel for five days, Coast Guard sailors from two cutters boarded it in international waters 890 miles (1,400 km) southwest of San Diego, encountering no resistance, said Petty Officer Brenda Toledo, a

"Our intention is to return those aboard the vessel to their country of origin as quickly as possible," said State Department spokeswoman Julie Reside in Washington. "We believe that is the best means of discouraging future attempts to smuggle illegal aliens into the

Patriot missiles arrive in S. Korea

SEOUL (R) - Two U.S. ships carrying Patriot air defence missiles docked in South Korea Monday as Seoul and Washington raised the pressure on Communist North Korea to come clean about its suspected nuclear arms programme.

Amid tight security, two U.S. ships, the Meteor and the Comet, were escorted by South Korean patrol boats into the southern port of Pusan at

Witnesses saw a number of camouflage-painted trucks come off the ships. A Defence Ministry spokesman would not confirm the arrival of the missiles, but U.S. officials have said Patriots were on board. As the missiles were being

unloaded, a senior U.S. official

visiting South Korea held talks with President Kim Young-Sam. Unification Minister Lee Yung-Dug and other officials to discuss joint steps aimed at breaking the impasse over the North's suspected nuclear programme. Assistant Secretary of State

Robert Gallucci, the Clinton administration's new coordinator on North Korea, shared the view that the Stalinist state would face sanctions if it did not promptly comply with a U.N request to allow full inspections of its suspect nuclear sites, Seoul government officials said.

They said the United States would consider a high-level meeting with the North only after Pyongyang opened its sites and allowed U.N. inspec-

The U.N. Security Council issued a statement on March 31 urging the North to allow inspec-tions. Although. China, North Korea's last remaining major ally, blocked U.S. moves to threaten sanctions in a stronger President Kim told a meet-

ing of the Pacific-Asia Travel Association in Seoul Monday be believed North Korea would not be able to continue to defy world opinion embo-died by the U.N. Security Council statement.

"It is hard to imagine that Pyongyang will dare to resort to any act of military provocation in the face of iron-clad (South) Korean-U.S. security arrangements," Mr. Kim said.

China moves to end row over Taiwanese deaths however, it'll encourage Watanabe and others to follow suit," said Koji Kakizawa, one BEUING (R) — Premier Li Peng indicated Monday China faced serious punishment. The official Xinhua News keep the case under wraps,

had closed its inquiry into the Qiandao boat fire, ignoring charges in Taiwan of army complicity in a deadly attack that damaged uneasy ties be-tween the rivals. "What really happened with

regard to the Qiandao Lake incident has already been found out and the criminals in the case have already been detained," Mr. Li told reporters before leaving for a tour of Central Asia.

"This is a heinous criminal offence and we will seriously punish those criminals," Mr. Li said in a briefing.

Reporters were not allowed to press Mr. Li on allegations leaked by Taiwan intelligence that the arson attack was the work of renegade soldiers in the People's Liberation Army (PLA).

China said Sunday that police in coastal Zhejiang province had arrested three men for murder, robbery and arson in the mysterious March 31 pleasure-boat fire on Qiandao Lake that killed 24 Taiwan tourists and eight mainland

But Beijing continued to

disclosing no details about its inquest, the suspects or what evidence led to their arrest. China's secrecy despite persistent questions about the

attack jeopardised an ongoing thaw in relations with Taiwan, its arch-rival since the Chinese Civil War ended in 1949. Taiwan's Nationalist rulers have banned all group tours to China from May 1, citing dissatisfaction with the inquest by

munist China's "bandit" authorities. Taiwan government sources auoted intelligence reports Saturday as saying China's army was responsible.

what it denounced as Com-

The reports said Beijing scrambling to limit the political damage and preserve the lucrative Taiwan tourism business, chose to cover up the military's alleged role.

More than one million

Taiwanese travellers pumped at least \$589 million into China's economy in 1993.

Mr. Li did not address Taiwan's allegations and gave a clear impression that the case was closed, saying in resolute

terms that "the criminals in the

case" had been arrested and

Agency had said Sunday only that "three suspects" were arrested in a probe that was far from finished, noting that police were "seizing every mi-nute to investigate" the case.

Zhejiang provincial and police officials reached by phone Monday gave Reuters a uniform response — "please watch the newspapers for details" — indicating Qiandao now was a matter for Beijing's propaganda machine, which controls all media.

A spokeswoman at the Foreien Ministry in Beijing said by phone that the question of possible army complicity "sounds like a rumour" but pledged to look into the

The Taiwan intelligence report said PLA troops robbed the 24 Taiwan tourists on the pleasure-boat Hairui, then torched it and its passengers and crew with flamethrowers.

The report said Chinese authorities learned of the army's role the next day but protected the soldiers by returning the stolen goods to the smouldering vessel, hoping to avert what they feared would be the

attack's "far-reaching" impact. Xinhua identified the suspects as Wu Lihong, 22, Hu Zhihan, 24, and Yu Aijun, 23, all of Zhejiang.
The three had "confessed to

plotting, preparing and carrying out the robbery and murders and setting fire to the boat", Xinhua said. Mr. Li said: "I'd like to take this opportunity to express my

condolences over the death of those compatriots from both Taiwan and the mainland, and I'd also like to express my sympathy to the families of the victims," he said. In Taiwan, officials said it was too early to reverse the

decision to suspend cultural exchanges and ban tours to China. Interior Minister Wu Poh-Hsiung told reporters that China still had not provided enough information on the tragedy.

"Can you believe that three men can kill 32 people, even with guns? Nobody managed to jump into the water? I think the Chinese Communists simply want to get some scapegoats so that they can end this quickly," said Chuang Hsu-Fang, widow of one of the Taiwan

Fraternity

charged with prostitution

DURHAM (R) + A New Hampshire grand jury has indicted a college fraternity house on prostitution charges after it allegedly hired strippers to perform oral sex at a party. officials said Sunday. A Strafford County grand jury handed down the indictment charging the 20-member Zeta Chi fraternity on the University of New Hampshire campus with prostitution, said county attorney Lincoln Soldati. He said Zeta Chi had violated a state statute prohibiting the use of a place for prostitution. A second indictment charges the fraternity with selling alcohol to minors, Mr. Soldati said. adding that the frat house could be fined "substantially." The prostitution charge stems from a Feb. 21 party in which two strippers were hired to perform oral sex on students and on each other while morely was thrown at them, according to the indictment. "There was money exchanged for acts of penetration," Mr. Soldati said. Fraternity president David Flanders, a 21-year-old political science major at the university, said he did not know how the fraternity would plead at the arraignment date, which has not yet been scheduled.

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letters draws tears DHAKA (R) — Thousands of

Display of love

lovesick teenagers jostled to read tales of romance and broken hearts in a display of love letters at a Bangladesh university. "It was really a moving scene with streams of people coming in and some shedding tears after reading letters," a Rajshahi University official said. The display was organised by the Biswapremik (Universal Lovers), a student body, to mark the Bengali New Year. The letters were contributed by university students past and present. "Some came out sobbing, some took shots of the letters with a camera and some were simply over whelmed," one teacher said.
"After all, love is something that is very minutely pursued on the campus, which is otherwise volatile with political un-

in 'Alice in Wonderland'

old man was pulled from the fied man quickly hired 2

Stop the presses — it's the cops

LONDON (R) — British police said they found counterfeit notes with a face value of more than £13 million (\$19 million) in a raid on a North London print shop. The raid stopped the presses when they were halfway through a run of counterfeit British banknotes and four people are being questioned. A police spokes-woman said the equipment had also been used in the past to fake currency from Spain, Ireland, Nigeria and Romania, as well as U.S. dollars. Police are still counting the notes seized in the raid, but their face value was somewhere between £13 and £15 million (\$19 and \$22 million), the spokeswoman

N. Zealand police

In December, Mr. Hosokawa's decision to partially open of the rebels. Pope takes off gloves against U.N. conference

VATICAN CITY (R) — Pope John Paul has taken off the gloves in a pitched battle against the United Nations over a planned population conference which the Vatican fears will promote unrestricted abortion and contraception.

"The Pope's war against the United Nations goes on nonstop," said Rome's La Repubblica newspaper. "On Papal orders, the Vatican has launched a real offensive against the United Nations," said Milan's Il Giornale.

The Pope, who rarely attacks international organisations directly, has pulled out all stops in a Vatican attempt to influence the Cairo conference on population and develop-On Sunday, the 73-year-old

Pontiff, raising his voice with

emotion, dedicated his entire

weekly address to the Septem-

ber conference and fulminated

against some aspects of the draft of its final document. "What threatens the family in fact threatens mankind," the Pope said. "This is even more

true when one speaks of a presumed "right to abortion." "It is now more urgent than ever to react against forms of behaviour that are the fruit of a hedonistic and permissive culture..." he said.

The Roman Catholic Church bans abortion and all forms of artificial birth control. The U.N. conference is drawing up a 20-year plan to stabilise world population at

7.27 billion by the year 2050.

Programmes include the right

to abortion, contraception,

and primary health care for women and infants. The world's current population is 5.7 billion and could rise to 10 billion in 20 years without family planning.

immigrants

Orlando ends Bulls' 10-game win streak

ORLANDO, Florida (R) — Shaquille O'Neal scored 32 points to lead the Orlando Magic to an impressive 118-101 victory over the Chicago Bulls Sunday, snapping the Bulls' 10-game winning streak.

Scottie Pippen scored 34 points for Chicago, which dropped 1½ games belief first-place Atlanta in the Central Division and half a game behind the Knicks in the Eastern Conference. Orlando remained a distant fourth in the conference.

Nick Anderson, who finished with 22 points, scored nine points and O'Neal seven in a 21-8 run that bridged the third and fourth quarters to take a 99-84 lead with 7:24 to

Pippen kept the Bulls close with 13 points in the third quarter but was held scoreless in the fourth.

O'Neal grabbed 14 rebounds and Anfernee Hardaway added 21 points for the Magic. who snapped a two-game losing streak.

Jeff Turner scored 15 points for Orlando before suffering a knee injury in the fourth

In Charlotte, Larry Johnson scored 22 points and grabbed 12 rebounds as the Homets kept their faint playoff hopes alive with a 107-91 victory over the New York Knicks.

Hersey Hawkins added 20 points as the Horners pulled to within 11/2 games of the Miami Heat — who lost Sunday — in the race for the final Eastern Conference playoff slot.

Patrick Ewing scored 20 points and pulled down 10 rebounds for New York, which fell a game behind Atlanta for the best record in the Eastern Conference.

The Knicks have dropped four lof their last six games. In Miami, Kenny Anderson scored 24 of his 29 points in the second half as the New Jersey

finishing in 2:00:51.

Nets rallied to a 110-103 wir over the Heat, clinching their

third straight playoff berth,
In Portland, Vernon Maxwell kicked off a late 12-3 run with a four-point play and the Houston Rockets clinched their second straight Midwest Division title with a 119-110

win over the Trail Blazers.

Maxwell scored 27 points. including 6-of-11 from beyond the 3-points line, and added eight assists. Hakeem Olajuwon scored a game-high 29

The Rockets were 10-of-18 from 3-point range. Their 406 3-pointers this season are the most in NBA history, surpassing the Phoenix Suns' total of 398 last season. last season.

At Detroit, the Indiana Pacers used a 13-3 fourth-quarter run to clinch a playoff berth with a 104-99 win over the

Rik Smits and Scott each had 16 points for the Pacers, who had seven players in double figures.

Isiah Thomas had 22 points and Joe Dumars scored 20 for Detroit, which lost its ninth straight.

At Minnesota, Laphonso Ellis had 21 points and nine rebounds and the playoffbound Denver Nuggets dominated the second half en route to a 99-88 win over the Timber-

The Nuggets, who earned the eight playoff berth in the Western Conference Friday, trailed 55-44 at halftime, but outscored the Timberwolves 55-34 after intermission.

At Washington, Don Mac-Lean scored 21 points and Calbert Cheaney added 20 as the Bullets posted their most decisive victory ever over the Boston Cletics, 142-100.

The 42-point margin surpassed the Baltimore Bullets' 132-92 triumph over Boston in

NEWS IN BRIEF

Morocco sets mark in relay championship

LITOHORO, Greece (AP) — A strong Moroccan team Sunday set a new meet record at the 2nd World Road Relay

Championship, easily oustripping favoured Ethiopia and Kenya. The team of Brahim Jabour, Larbi Khattabi, Hicham

el Guerrouj and Olympic gold medalists Brahim Boutayeb and Khalid Skah covered the 42.2 kilometres in 1 hour 57

minutes and 56 seconds. The previous mark of 2:00:02 was set

by Kenya at the first championships in Maderia, Portugal, in

1992. Ethiopia was a distant second in 1:58:51 despite the

presence of world 10,000-metre champion Haile Gebreselasie.

Kenya, the previous champion, was just over a minute behind,

LONDON (AP) — A runner in Sunday's London Marathon collapsed and died of an apparent heart attack, race officials said. The 52-year-old Englishman had reached the 19-mile stage of the race around central London when he fell.

According to race Director Chris Brasher, a resuscitation team

was on the spot but failed to revive the man. He is the fourth

race-related fatality in the 14-year history of the race, three

being runners and the other a spectator. The first was in 1990 and there were two last year. The dead man, whose identity

has not yet been released, was one of 26,316 runners who

started the London Marathon, a record number for the race.

GOREN BRIDGE

THAT LITTLE EDGE

Brasher said their ages ranged from 18-87.

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Runner collapses, dies during race

5 teams to participate in Al Jazireh basketball tourney

By Aleen Bannavan Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - It seems basket: ball fans will have their hands full this summer with brimming activities that are bound to leave a positive impact on the sport in the Kingdom.

Apart from the already well publicised April 22 charity between Al Ahli and Al Orthodoxi that will be attended by former heavyweight boxing champion Mohammad Ali, the Arab Radio and Television (ART) tournament will bring together a host of top Arab clubs between May 5-15.

However, one basketball event stands apart - the Al-Jazireh international tournament - a week-long event in which top five women's teams

will be competing.

Al Jazireh — Jordan's newly crowned women's champions will be hosting Syria's Al Jala' Lebanon's Homentmen, a select team from the occupied territories, in addition to a promising team - Kefalovrysos of Cyprus — between July 22-29.

Representatives from the Cypriot club left Amman Sunday after meeting with their hosts in addition to a number of sports officials in the coun-

The club's president Aristides Aristidou and honourary President Pantelakis Pantzias held meetings with the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) and the Jordan Handball Federaton (JHF) and discussed the possibility of future cooperation.

It was agreed that Jordan's national women's handball team would play in Cyprus in July, and that Kefalovrysos' women's handball team would play in Amman in November. In an interview with the Jor-

dan Times, the club representatives voiced their hope that such competitions would serve teams in both countries. Kefalovrysos, a club which was originally based in the occupied town of Kythrea in

northern Cyprus. is now based

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in the southeastern towns of Jordan's women's cham-Paralimni and Larnaca and is sponsored by KEO, the island's biggest distillery. Their women's handball team has been Cyprus' champions for the past three years.

with eight players being members of the Cypriot national The club's women's basketball team was only formed two years ago and finished fifth

among eight competing teams

in the first division. Kefalovrysos' men's handball team also competes in the

Despite their handball team's competitions in the European Cup, and cup winners cup in which they have met Czechoslovakia, Romania and Byelorussia, Al Jazireh's tournament will be their basketbal team's first competition

"We hope to have a good presence in the competition," Mr. Aristidou told the Jordan Times. "We will surely benefit from the competition and we are sure that just like our handball team, we will get an advanced standing in our country's next championship.'

Al Jazireh's tournament will select best defensive and offensive players, the player with the best attitude and the competition's most valuable player. Rivalry is expected to be quite tough as the five participating teams all have a good record and reputation.

Syria's Al Jala' beat Al Jazireh twice with a margin of 20 points in their last friendly matches in January. The Palestinian select team was defeated twice by Al Jazireh in Amman. While Lebanese Cup champions Homentmen beat Al Jazireh 80-25 in a friendly match back in 1992 when Al Jazireh were ranked third in the Kingdom.

Al Jazireh have since recruited two pivotal players, Jumana Salti and Rana Husseini, who alongside Tala Al Mauje, Suhair and the rest of the ambitious team are expected to be well prepared as they play the first round of the women's 1994 championship in early July hoping to retain

Since the JBF only has one yearly champioinship which is usually concluded in two or three weeks, the few women's teams usually have to host a team to give players an incentive and keep them busy throughout the season.

"We are now thinking global. We can advance our standard only by playing against more experienced teams," Al Jazireh's head coach Fadi Sabbah told the Jordan Times.

pions commenced their season early this year when they played a series of matches in Aleppo, Syria. They met league leaders Al Horriyeh, runnersup Al Yarmouk and Al Jala'.

Players now hope that the newly formed JBF will give more attention to women's teams, especially with the forming of a special committee to seriously supervise women's basketball.

The women's national team last competed in 1983 when women's basketball competitions were put on hold for over

Since then, the former JBF announced the regrouping of the women's team in December 92. However, players are still awaiting for practice to

begin someday! Women's basketball began its latest comeback in the 1989-90 season when three teams, Al Orthodoxi, Al Ahli and Homentmen competed in the championship which was won by Al Orthodox in 1991. Al Jazireh joined the women's championship and finished fourth after the three aforementioned teams.

In the 1992 competition, Al Jazireh clinched third place from Homentmen, and in 1993 defied expectations by clinching the title away from Al Orthodoxi.

Therefore, the pressure is now on the newly crowned champions to retain their title and possibly represent the Kingdom in the Arab Clubs'

Championship.

Al Jazireh, sponsored by Aramex, are a growing powerhouse in Jordanian basketball. In addition to the women's titles, they also clinched the youth's under-14 and under-16 titles, while their men's team finished third in the first division and under-19 competition Al Jazirch's women's cham-

pionship will undoubtedly bring a welcome change to the women's basketball arena in the Kingdom. The last foreign teams to compete in Jordan were Sariyet Ramallah and Al Catholic of Bethlehem who were hosted by Al Jazireh, and Lebanon's Homentmen who were hosted by their Jordanian counterparts - Homentmen Amman in the summer of

Mr. Pantazis thanked Al Jazireh for inviting his team and extended the invitation to Jordanian teams to "taste Cypriot hospitality.'

AC Milan clinches 3rd straight title

ROME (AP) - AC Milan became only the second team since World War II to win three straight Italian league titles, earning a 2-2 draw with Udinese late Sunday for its 14th "Scudetto.

Zvonimir Boban and striker Marco Simone both scored to raise Milan's record to 19-11-2 and 49 points, five more than Juventus with only two games remaining in the season.

"My first championship was novelty, the second very difficult, but this one seemed downright impossible," coach Fabrio Capello said.

The title capped off a triumphant year for Milan owner Silvio Berlusconi, who led a conservative alliance to victory in general elections last month and appears to be in line to

become Italy's next premier. More than 70,000 joyous fans celebrated on the rainy pitch at Milan's San Siro Sta-

Milan's domination of the Italian league over the past three years has been outdone only by Torino since 1946. The Turin club won four straight titles from 1946 to 1949 before a plane crash in May that year wiped out the team. Torino won five straight titles including their 1943 crown, owing to the suspension of league play in 1944 and 1945. Juventus also won five



Colombian player Faustino Asprilla (right) playing for Parma is challenged by Cagliari's Mattee Villa (left) and Aldo Firicano (centre) during their Sunday match. Parma won by 3-1,

straight titles from 1931-35 Sunday's four goals were scored within a wild 10 minutes of the second half, the last an equaliser of Udinese defender

Bagio Rossitto off a rebound. Boban's 16-metre blast put the Devils on top in the talth but an error by winger Granluigi Lentini set up Udinese forward Stelano Borgonovo's equaliser nine minutes later. Simone struck from 18 metres two minutes later to restore the lead but Rossitto's follow-up goal saved the draw

for Udinese, the only first-

division fear not to have lose to the Devils in the past three vears

In other matches Sunday, Juventus routed Lazio of Rome 6-1: Sampdoria of Genou best internazionale of Milan 3-1, Parma knocked off Caelian 3-1, Cremonese fied Tonno 1-1: Napoli diew with Atalanta of Bernamy 1.1; Roma beat Pracenta 3-1, Fog. Reggiana feat Lecce 4-2.

The 30 goals acored Sunday were the most or any round this

Berasategui beats Courier to capture Nice Open title

NICE, France (AP) — Alberto Berasategui, a 20-year-old Spaniard, upset Jim Courier 6-4, 6-2 to win the final of the \$300,000 Nice Open tennis tournament.

Berasategui, ranked 34th in the world, bear the no. 4 ranked Courier...after playing for more than two hours in the morning semifinal.

"I was tired but being in the final against Courier gave me confidence,' Berasategui said. "I had nothing to lose. I was in the final and if I lost, I lost against Courier."

Courier, second seeded, breezed with a 6-0, 6-3 victory over Marc Rosset of Switzerland in a little more than an hour ending well before the other semifinal.

However it was Berasategu who took the final, his second tournament victory on the circuit. Last year he won the Sao Paolo tournament, beating Dosedel in the final.

"I didn't care if I won or lost,' Berasategui said. "Maybe that us why I played so well."

I didn't seem so at the start, Courier won the first game with three service-winners and an ace.

eight deuces to finally hold.

However things began to change on Courier's next service, as he struggled through

Berasategui was not making mistakes while unforced errors began to creep into Couner's game. Berasategui kept finding the angeles and the lines and Courier would be forced into

He hit the ball as hard as he could and he was hitting the lines," Councr said. "I never saw anyone hit the lines like he

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rooms, model veranda, modern kitchen, quest hall with

dining room, colour TV, telephone, central heating,

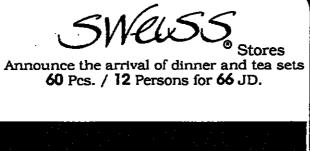
garage, ground floor with beautiful garden. Location:

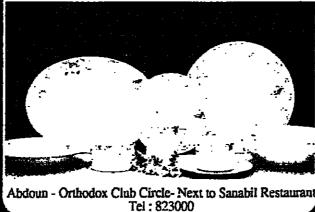
Abdoun beside the Orthodox Club, no water problem,

Call tel.: 644100 all day.



a major, North settled for game in no trump. West's heart opening lead struck declarer's only weak spot. South could count eight fast winners, so the contract hinged on a finesse in one of the black suita. How would you go about the pisy and which finesse should you take? One possible line is to run your diamond winners and hope a defender makes a revealing discard. Over the years, however, we have learned not to put too much faith in learned not to put too much faith in opponents' signals in these situa-tions. All you are likely to schieve is





Opening lead: Five of . The more tricks that have been played, the more everyone should know about the lie of the cards. Therefore, if you want to put anyone to a guess, whether you are the declarer or one of the defenders, the earlier you do so the more likely you are to succeed. There's a subtle variation of that theme at the core of ation of that theme at the core of today's hand.

Y

to give the opponents a count of your winners, making the defense easier. We prefer making a defendar guess at trick two. After winning the ace of hearts, we would lead the queen of spades immediately. It would take a brave West to play low in tempo when holding the king and looking at the ace-jack in duranty, so it likes and does not come was would rise.

The auction was straightforward. North's three clubs was a probe for a 4-4 spade fit, but when South denied

a major, North settled for game in

if West does not cover, we would rise with the ace and play East for the king of clubs. A successful finesse in that suit delivers the fulfilling trick.

Tel.: 634144/634149 Performances: 11:00, 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30

Tel.: 618274 - 618275 Tel.: 675571 Tel.: 699238 Cinema Tel.: 677420 Nabil & Hisham's Tel.: 625155 Tel.: 634144 Çinema AHLAN THEATRE CONCORD AMMOUN THEATRE Nabil Al Mashini Theatre PLAZA PHILADELPHIA TOM & JERRY CONCORD '1' 0 The grand opening of Amoun Coming soon The Political Satire Corey Haim & Corey Feldman, Nicole Invite you to attend "Their Movie" as of MR. JONES Theatre Abu Awad in: The new comedy Eggen D April 20 1994 "Ahlan Arab Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 play: Summit Conference" Political comedy BLOWN AWAY CONCORD '2' "A PUNCTURED BAG" A CINEMA PHILADELPHIA Forbidden X Forbidden Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:50 The Assassin Directed by Ghassan Al Mashini Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

NEWS IN BRIEF

HCST, France sign agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — An agreement was signed Monday between the Higher Council of Science and Technology (HCST) and the French government under which terms the French government will present equipment and offer training to HCST personel. The agreement, which was signed by HCST Secretary General Hani Al Mulki and French Ambassador to Jordan Barnard Bagolet stipulates that the French government will provide to the council a multiscope computer and will train Jordanian personnel to use the system. Another agreement was also signed among the French government, the HCST and the Department of Antiquities providing for conducting topographic studies on the ancient city of Petra.

Crown Prince meets Canadian team

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Monday received a delegation representing the Canadian National Defence College currently visiting Jordan. Prince Hassan paid tribute to relations between Jordan and Canada and stressed the need for Canada to continue its constructive role in the Middle East peace process. He also affirmed the keenness of His Majesty King Hussein to cement relations with Canada.

Princess Sarvath receives Mrs. Berri

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath, chairperson of the Young Women's Muslim Society. Monday received at the Royal Court wife of Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri. Mrs. Berri earlier visited the society and met with its administrative board to be acquainted with its role

Saudis ban political material during Haj

DUBA! (R) - Saudi Arabia said Monday it would punish any pilgrims found carrying banned political books, pictures or leaflets at this year's annual Haj pilgrimage. An Interior Ministry statement, carried by the official Saudi Press Agency. said some pilgrims had been found carrying such banned material when they arrived in the kingdom to perform this year's Haj due in May. "The ministry points out that such material is absolutely banned... and hopes that everybody will abide by this and those who do not will be punished... according to the laws of the kingdom," the statement said. It gave no other details. Saudi Arabia bans all forms of political activity during the Haj, which is performed by an estimated two million Muslims. In 1987, some 400 people, mainly Iranian pilgrims, were killed in clashes in Mecca between security forces and Iranians holding a political rally. The Saudi statement did not give the nationalities of the pilgrims it said were carrying the banned political material. Iran's ruling clergy often urge pilgrims to hold rallies at the Haj to condemn what they see as the main enemies of Islam — the United States and Israel. Iranian pilgrims are also known to carry pictures of their Muslim leaders. A dispute arose this year between Iran and Saudi Arabia over the number of Iranians allowed to perform the pilgrimage. A Saudi Haj official said on Friday that the kingdom has told Iran its pilgrims will not be allowed to hold any political rallies or activities this year.

Two German tourists killed in Libya

TUNIS (R) — Two German tourists were killed in Libya in an attack that occurred around April 9, an official at the German embassy in Tripoli told Reuters by telephone. The official said the Libyan authorities had informed the German embassy that a man named Becker and his wife, both about 60, were attacked in Libya's coastal city of Sirte. The Libyans described the attacker as an "unknown" person. "The German consulate is now preparing the coffins to repatriate them," the ofifical added. He said the embassy had only scant details on the killings as supplied by the Libyan foreign ministry.

Photographer killed in S. African shooting

TOKOZA, South Africa (R) - A South African news photographer was killed and two were wounded covering fighting in Tokoza township on Monday, witnesses said. Ken Oosterbrook of the Star newspaper was killed, editor Peter Sullivan confirmed. Greg Marinovich, a South African working for Newsweek magazine was hit in the chest and underwent surgery. Reuter photographer Juda Ngwenya was hit in the arm. Natalspruit hospital said Mr. Marinovich, a Pulitzer Prize winner for pictures taken in township violence. was "alive and stable." Mr. Ngwenya reported that he himself was not seriously wounded. Witnesses said the three were caught in crossfire between Zulu hostel dwellers and members of the national peacekeeping force in the township where fighting between hostel dwellers and rivals broke out early on

Russia lacks money for weather satellite

MOSCOW (R) - Russia said on Monday it lacked the money to launch an advanced geostationary weather satellite needed to complete a global meteorological network. Pavel Zybin, an official at Russian weather monitoring service Rosgidromet, said the Elektro satellite could have been launched last year had the money been available. "The Elektro and booster are still in Moscow and I do not know when they will be delivered to the baikonour cosmodrome," Mr. Zybin said by telephone. He did not say how much the launch would cost. The satellite, designed to stay above the same spot on earth at an altitude of 36,000 kilometres, is supposed to transmit data about ocean temperature, wind speed and track the development of evelones and hurricanes. The satellite is intended to hover above the Indian Ocean, covering territory from Germany in the west to Khabarovsk in the east and from the northeastern Russian of Anadyr to Antarctica, Europe, the United States and Japan created an international system of geostationary satellites in 1977 which covers almost the entire world, but the Elektro satellite is needed to complete the jigsaw.

'Romeo and Juliet' moves to avoid attack

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Wherefore art thou, Romeo? In Jerusalem, he grabbed Juliet off an Old City balcony and sought refuge in a discotheque, where young lovers can kill themselves in peace. Metaphorically, at least, Eran Baniel, a theatre director, announced Monday that he was moving a joint Palestinian-Israeli production of Shakespeare's classic love tragedy from the walls of the Old City in Arab East Jerusalem to an abandoned discotheque in the Jewish part of the city. "The security situation is very sensitive," Mr. Baniel explained to the Associated Press. "We thought it would be better to move it west." The Old City's cobbled byways, stairways - oh yes, and balconies - would have made for exciting live theatre when the show opens in June. But Mr. Baniel was concerned that a recent space of Arab-Israeli violence would reach his actors if they performed

Papandreou leaves for official U.S. visit

ATHENS (AP) - Socialist Premier Andreas Papandreou left on Monday for an official visit to the United States, an honour the White House denied him in the past. Mr. Papandreou, who once called the United States a "metropolis of imperialism." has made good relations with the United States a priority since his reelection in October. "I will give a great battle on our matters of national interest, a friendly battle of course, because the climate will be good, we will also make every effort to improve Greek-American relations. They are good, we can improve them," Mr. Papandreou said Sunday. During his 1981-89 administration, Mr. Papandreou had not been invited to the White House by presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush. But he said after meeting with President Clinton at a summit in January that the climate had changed.



JERUSALEM: Muslim and Christian clergy-men, Jordanian, Palestinian and Arab, Muslim and foreign representatives Monday attend a

celebration in Amman marking the completion of renovation at the Dome of the Rock Mosque in Jerusalem (see page 1) (Photo by Yousef Al

Lebanon has its own plan to resettle Palestinian refugees

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Bouez said in an interview published Monday that a plan to remove the 400,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon was under international consideration.

The four-point plan envisages their resettlement in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho, other Arab countries, the United States, Canada and Australia, Mr. Bouez said.

The minister bared the plan in an interview published by Beirut's daily Al Sfir. Spokesmen for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and rival Palestinian factions backed by Syria declined comment on the report.

Mr. Bouez said 20 per cent of the estimated 400,000 Palestinians in Lebanon could be absorbed in the Gaza-Jericho area, which is expected to become autonomous later this year.

He said a scheme under which refugees in Lebanon would join kin in Egypt, Syria, Jordan and the United States and Canada could absorb

another 25 per cent. "Another item of the plan requires Canada and Australia to give priority in their immigration laws to Palestinians living in Lebanon," Mr. Bouez

"Wealthy and under-populated Arab countries with abundant resources are politically and morally bound to take labourers from among Lebanon-based Palestinians rather than importing workers from Asia for Africa," Mr. Bouez added.

He did not name countries considering the resettlement plan but said: "It is under discussion on a regional and international level. Mr. Bouez said the plan only

covers Palestinians in Lebanon, excluding those in Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Iraq. The foreign minister said

Lebanon would never be able to permanently take in the Palestinians because that would drastically tip the ba-lance in favour of Muslims among its four million popula-A Lebanese reconciliation

charter, which embodied political reforms that gave Muslims an equal share of power with the long-dominant Christians to end the 1975-1990 civil war, prohibits naturalising Palestinian refugees.

The Palestinians played a major role in the first seven years of the civil war, when PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat managed to transform Lebanon into his main power base. Mr. Arafat and his estimated 8,000 guerrillas were evacu-

ated under U.S.-led multinational protection in 1982, when Israel invaded Lebanon to route the PLO. Mr. Bouez said the Beirut gov-

ernment has been reluctant to allow the United Nations rebuild the damaged sections of the 13 refugee camps in Lebanon destroyed in various stages of the civil war.

"If you allow the Palestinians to build anywhere in Lebanon... you are wittingly or unwittingly moving in the direction of settling them for good," Mr. Bouez said.

About 200,000 of the refugees live in camps and are registered with the United Nations as refugees. The rest live and work in cities like Beirut, Tripoli and Sidon with special work permits that do not provide them with social security

King: No peace without Jerusalem

(Continued from page 1)

Israeli borders, Jerusalem is the thorniest problem in Israel's negotiations with Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the

Repeating a pledge made during a speech he made on Aug. 6, 1964, when the first phase of restoration at the Al Aqsa Mosque was completed, the King said, "Palestine has always figured prominently in our national construction and defence efforts because Jordan lives for Palestine and for its sake stands ready to sacrifice

In his speech, which was carried live in Jordan Television, the King emphasised the Hashemite links to Jerusalem dating back to the Prophet Mohammad, who launched a nocturnal flight to heaven from the rock encased in the Dome of the Rock Mosque.

Speaking only days after Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin publicly questioned Jordan's tolerance of the presence in the Kingdom of members of the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, the King invoked the name of the Muslim warrior after whom Hamas has named its military wing, Izzedeen Al Qassam. "To all our martyrs there,

beginning with Izzedeen Al Qassam to the most recent worshippers at the Al Ibrahimi Mosque, we invoke Allah's mercy and compassion," the

The King praised those who had died in the defence of Arab and Muslim rights in Jerusalem and said, shall remain faithful to the cause for which they gave their

"We say no to any peace formula that does not secure the historical and legitimate rights of the people of Palestine on their sacred and nation-

al soil," the King said. Referring to the acts of terror, arson and murder commit-

ted by fanatics against Muslims at holy shrines in the occupied territories the King spoke of the restoration of "inalienable rights of the people of Pales-tine... so that no worshipper there would ever be terrorised by a murderer; so that Salaheddin's pulpit would never be set ablaze by a bigot; so that children would never be sprayed at point blank..."
Sheikh Mohammad Rashad

Al Sherif recited verses from the Koran to commemorate Monday's occasion. Haidar Mahmoud recited a poem written specially for the occasion. Minister of Awkaf Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, head of the Awkaf in Jerusalem Abdul Azziz Salhab and construction chief Henry Johnston and grand mufti of the Sultanate of Oman Sheikh Mohammad Al Khalili addressed the audi-

The King also presented gifts to members of a committee in charge of the Dome of the Rock renovation.

ence.

Hamas activists' passports withheld

(Continued from page 1)

representatives in Amman of Izzidine Al Qassam's Brigades' claim of responsibility for the heroic acts in Afula and Hadera," the statement said.
"Rabin and his government

know very weil that the Qassam's Brigades conduct, plan and execute their activities from the occupied territories," the statement said, adding that "his failure to put an end to these attacks, and the revealing of his deception in the settlement process has caused him to use these attacks to issue a warning to Jordan."

Hamas said that Mr. Rabin needed to warn Jordan to achieve the following objec-

- Direct attention away from the failure of his security measures and his oppressive measures in putting an end to the heroic attacks by the Qassam Brigades.

— Use the "American sword"

to pressure Jordan towards signing a unilateral agreement with his government similar to the one signed in Oslo, and this warning falls in line with the policy of the U.S. administration which uses the naval blockade on Aqaba as a way to pressure Jordan for the same

Despite the strong language against Israel and Mr. Rabin's government, the Hamas statement appeared to set a precedent in opening the door for bargaining with Israel.

Stressing that the attacks against Israeli civilians were in retaliation against the Hebron massacre of Palestinian worshippers, Hamas said that this was not a policy but the "ex-"Hamas is ready to reconsid-

er this exception on the condition that the enemy's prime minister, his government and his army halt completely all killings of unarmed civilians from our people," the statement said.

"We are not against peace," the statement added," but the peace offered by the government of the enemy is not peace but a consolidation of occupation and the injustice falling on

our people."
"While we in Hamas know

well that the Oslo agreement is nothing but humiliating surrender from the PLO ... we think that the right beginning would be on the following foundations," the statement added.

Hamas demanded the "full Israeli withdrawal from our Palestinian land and dismantling and removal of all settlements, the holding of full and free elections in the West Bank and Gaza to select the representatives of our people and their leadership." "The chosen leadership will

be the one that represents the aspirations and hopes of our people and will decide on the ensuing steps," the statement concluded in what most analysts termed as an indication that Hamas was proposing itself as an alternative leadership to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, through the results of the elections and by deduction the side to conduct negotiations with Israel.

Jerusalem 'permanent capital'

(Continued from page 1)

to be able to confront the challenges."
Yemeni Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ghaleb Al Quraishi delivered an address at the banquet lauding the role played by His Majesty King Hussein and Prince Hassan in maintaining Islamic holy places in Jerusalem.

Iraqi leader sees better times ahead

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, his country crippled by U.N.imposed Gulf War sanctions, said in a statement on Monday prosperity was just around the

"We believe that affluence is coming," he declared in a message published in Baghdad newspapers, which also splashed a picture of President Saddam flanked by his two sons Uday and Qusay and top military brass.

President Saddam, whose army invaded Kuwait in 1990 only to be driven out by U.S.led allies, said members of the U.N. Security Council who want to continue sanctions imposed after the invasion were like someone, "holding the blade of a sword with his fist." "Iraq's enemies will either

loosen their grip or have their fingers chopped off," President Saddam said.
The United Nations cut off

sales of oil exports and imposed other sanctions for the invasion. The sanctions have caused

widespread deprivation, rampant inflation and skyrocketing prices, to the point where the government wound up providing every Iraqi family with a cheap chicken during the fasting month of Ramadan. But President Saddam pre-

dicted good times ahead: 'Affluence is coming... not because the ungodly people are intent to lift the evil.' The Security Council will next review the sanctions in

Two teams of U.N. weapons inspectors flew to Baghdad on Monday as the United Nations sought to speed up preparations for long-term monitoring prerequisite to lifting the oil embargo.

In its latest diplomatic drive, Iraq has sent envoys to Arab states saying it had done all that is required to have the. sanctions lifted.

Information Minister Hamed Yousef Hummadi said on Saturday during a visit to Yemen that Iraq had dropped its claim to Kuwait as Iraq's 19th province.

A representative of the U.N. regional field headquarters in Bahrain said a new seven-

member chemical weapons inspection team and a 14-

member ballistic missiles team left Bahrain on a U.N. plane on Monday morning. Two other teams are already here. It is rare for U.N. teams covering all four prescribed

weapons programmes to be in

Baghdad at the same time, a

sign of the quickening pace of

U.N. activity. "It's clearly much more in April than in March," a U.N.

representative said.
U.N. officials would not give a reason, but Iraq criticises the U.N. Special Commission on Iraq (UNSCOM) and the United Nations in general for delays in lifting the oil embargo, which the U.N. Security Council has linked to compliance on

For most of the period after the 1990/91 Gulf war, UN-SCOM had cited Iraqi obstructionism as the reason for its refusal to certify compliance by

Iraq has now agreed to the long-term monitoring that seeks to ensure it is not resuscitating its weapons program-

The U.N. plans to monitor scores of plants and facilities, manay scattered around Iraq, in many cases with cameras or other sensors.

UNSCOM will then require at least six months if not a year of testing Iraq's good intentions under the monitoring. Germany's Horst Reeps is heading the chemical team, the

74th UNSCOM mission. American John Larrabee is heading the missile group, which had left Baghdad on April 8 and written reports in Bahrain before heading back on Monday for a second phase of preparations.

He aims to complete recommendations on monitoring for his sector by the end of May. Nuclear and, biological weapons teams are already in

Once UNSCOM declares Iraqi compliance on weapons, it is still not guaranteed that the oil embargo will be lifted. The United States has sought to add additional conditions, including respect of Kuwait's borders and of human rights in

Israel says it does not seek 'commercial domination'

MUSCAT (AP) — Arabs should not fear that Israel will try to dominate the Middle East commercially if they make peace with the Jewish state, Israel's deputy foreign minister says. Yossi Beilin, on a landmark

visit to Oman for a watersharing conference, added however, in an interview with the Associated Press that steps towards full normalisation of Arab-Israeli ties should be gradual to help allay such fears.

"There is a feeling in the Arab states, some of them, that Israel may try to dominate the economies of the Arab World, a kind of neocolonial; ism," he said in the Sunday night interview.
"We should not create this

feeling or encourage this fear," said Mr. Beilin, a prominent Israeli peace negotiator.

The creation of a Middle East common market patterned after the European Un-ion (EU) should be "last on our agenda" because of the deep-seated mistrust between Arabs and Israelis, the product of decades of armed conflict and inflammatory rhetoric. "Today, there is such a big

gap that I am afraid that ... the suspicions will just rise," Mr. Beilin said. "We should be satisfied just

by having a common infrastructure which is very difficult too and very ambitious, too," he said, adding that basic cooperation was possible in the fields of energy, water, telecommunications and road and air links. Mr. Beilin and his 18-

member team are the first Israelis to come to the Gulf on an open invitation.

They are attending a 41-nation conference on the Mid-

nisation (PLO).

Israel could return Golan had not yet shown "an (Continued from page 1) appropriate degree of open-ness and flexibility to allow a

believe the prime minister has

seen any such pian."

Israel was drawing up serious plans for a staged withdrawal from the Golan Heights in preparation for a resumption of peace talks with Syria.

would likely resume at the end of the month, coinciding with a visit to the region by Mr.

Christopher. Mr. Rabin alleged that Syria

dle East's scarce water supplies, which experts warn could trigger future conflicts unless the regional countries manage them together.

The multilateral meeting is being held in the framework of the 21/2-year-old Arab-Israeli peace talks sponsored by the United States and Russia. Other multilateral meetings

in different countries deal with the environment, refugees, disarmament and regional eco-Many Arab states, including Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Yemen, are attending the

conference, although two of Israel's key adversaries, Syria and Lebanon, are boycotting. A Palestinian delegation is present, but Jordan sent only an observer. "The multilateral talks are a success story because we can

talk there about the real things in life - not only about the political arrangements but also about the future generations, things like water and environment," said Mr. Beilin. "We're speaking about joint

projects and the ability to work together towards a joint future, and we also refer to very concrete issues facing us like flights over the Gulf of Aqaba-... to the possibility of tourism package tours involving Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel and Egypt."
He noted that "an electricity

grid to link the Middle East-... may save us all some money. Mr. Beilin noted that a

multilateral session in late 1992 gave him the opportunity to initiate the secret contacts that led to an open dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Orga-

Mr. Rabin told Parliament

breakthrough and discussion of substance about a peace agree-Mr. Rabin also reiterated that Israel would be willing to withdraw forces from Lebanon if the Lebanese army succeeded over a six-month He said that negotiations period of preventing attacks by

guerrillas Mr. Rabin said Israel was making serious plans for the negotiations set to resume at the end of April,

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Gielgud upstages theatre awards

LONDON (R) — The Royal National Theatre took 10 of Britain's prestigious Olivier Theatre Awards Sunday. But the awards night was upstaged by stage, film and television actor Sir John Gielgud, who celebrated his 90th birthday Thursday, Janet Holmes A Court, chairwoman of Stoll Moss Theatres which own many of London's leading theatres, told the awards ceremony that the Globe Theatre in the heart of London's West End would be renamed Gielgud's Theatre in his honour. Gielgud, who rejected offers of a gala celebration and spent his 90th birthday quietly at home, was not at the awards ceremony in London's Palladium Theatre but newspapers said he was delighted by the tribute. The National Theatre dominated the awards named after the late British actor Lord Olivier. In what the Times newspaper called a victory of government-subsidised theatre over the commercial theatre, it took four awards for Stephen Sondheim's musical Sweeney Todd - the best musical revival — and four for the play Machinal — the best revival. British playwright Tom Stoppard won a Best New Play Award for the National Theatre production Arcadia, beating American playwrights, David Mamet, Tony Kushner and Arthur Miller. But Andrew Lloyd Webber's Sunset Boulevard, a hit which is still running, was beaten to the Best Musical prize by City Of Angels, which has closed.

Charles decries image of 'showbiz monarchy'

LONDON (AP) — Prince Charles decried the British royal family's image of a showbiz monarchy" and blamed the media for fostering the unwanted reputation. "The media helped to create the showbiz idea. They invented it, we didn't. We couldn't fulfill their expectations," Prince Charles, 45, said in the Mail On Sunday. The heir to the throne was interviewed by former deputy leader of the opposition Labour Party, Roy described as a vulnerable and sensitive man who is still scarred by the way he has been portrayed over his separation in 1992 from his wife of 11 years, Princess Diana, and his muchpublicised intimate telephone. calls with another woman. The interview also said Prince Charles has told friends he feels "profoundly depressed" by the thought that his destiny can only be fulfilled by the death of his mother, queen Elizabeth II. Prince Charles also dismissed a suggestion that the British monarchy should reform itself to be more like what Scandinavians call their "people's monarchy." He described the Scandinavian royals as "grander, more pom-pous and more hard to approach than we are."

Japan princess will not rush to get wed

TOKYO (R) — Princess Nori, youngest child of Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, turned 25 Monday and criticised speculation by the tabloid press about her love life. Responding in writing to questions put by Japanese court reporters, Princess Nori said speculation about prospective maniage partners could disrupt a number of lives. She hinted she felt no particular rush to get married soon. Princess Nori said the fuss over her brother Prince Naruhito's choice of bride had set a regrettable precedent.

Clinton marks anniversary of Ford Mustang

CONCORD, NC (R) — President Bill Clinton got to drive his 1967 Ford Mustang convertible with the "real '60s colour" Sunday and then toured a show honouring the 30th anniversary of the car model. Mr. Clinton, who was driven onto the steeply-banked Charlotte Motor Speedway in his black presidential limousine, hopped out and got behind the wheel of the car he and his step-brother Roger owned back in Arkansas. With Secret Service agent David Carpenter at his side, the man who said later "nobody lets me drive any more, got behind the wheel and stepped on the gas, although never going more than a few miles an hour so he could acknowledge the crowd along the railing.